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LAST CHANCE TODAY: FREE

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TOMORROW: JOINING THE SATURDAY TIMES Christopher Martin-Jenkins England's cricket future



*TIMES

US firms poised to run

TONY BLAIR has approved plans for the biggest privatisation yet by inviting companies to run the delivery of the £110 billion benefit system.

The initiative - known as the Single Work-Focused Gateway — will be Labour's key welfare reform proposal at the next general election and is likely to lead to American companies running large swaths

of the benefit system.

A restricted document, leaked to The Times, reveals that two American-based companies, Arthur Andersen and Deloine Consulting, are shortlisted to run four pilot operations which will begin in November and are then expected to go nationwide.

In a foreword to the confidismisses the welfare state as a second-class, failed service and urges private sector companies to help to create a mod-

10.00

The move, which could see major job losses and thousands of civil servants transferred to the private sector, will infuriate the trade unions. alarm Labour backbench MPs and take important areas of responsibility away from local authorities.

The Government intends to create a nationwide system whereby all claimants will make just one application to receive a variety of benefits. At the moment, claimants must apply to the Employment Service for the jobseeker's allowance, the Benefits Agency for income support and local council offices for council tax benefit. The Government believes this encourages duplication

and fraud. Under the Gateway plan. claimants will be given a personal adviser who will create a package for all their needs. Staff at the various benefits agencies will all work for the private operators and ultimate-

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benefits system

By Adam Sherwin

ly the Government wants all benefit payments to be rolled

The four pilot projects will be conducted in Leeds, Cheshire. Nottinghamshire and Suf-folk, with Deloitte Consulting and Arthur Andersen on all four shortlists.

It is only two years since a Whitehall ban on Andersen bidding for public work was lifted after the Conservative Government sued the firm over its advice on the DeLorean car venture. An auditors' report last year in Canada. where Anderson was contracted to overhaul the Ontario benefit system, claimed that the company charged up to six times more per hour than the previous cost of civil servants.

Deloitte Consulting of Philadelphia specialises in turning round failing businesses and has administered the controversial Wisconsin Works programme, which has removed five million claimants from the welfare rolls in the past

three years. The Prime Minister is understood to be frustrated with the pace of change in the welfare system. He has chaired meetings of a working group on the Gateway project and urged the Employment Minister Andrew Smith to push ahead

with the plan. In a document entitled The Vision: The Single Work-Focused Gateway, distributed to civil servants and potential bidders this month, he wrote: "In the past, the Welfare State has too often provided a secondclass service. It has failed to do enough to help people into work. We believe that this needs to change. A modernised welfare system should be helping people to become independent, rather than locking

them into dependency. "We want to move to a streamlined and efficient system in which there is a single point of access to welfare."

A Whitehall source said: There has been a lot of drift but Blair has finally grapsed this issue. They want it up and running by 2001, but realistically it will begin after the next

IS THIS THE MAN WHO PLANTED THE BRIXTON NAIL BOMB?



These closed-circuit television pictures of the prime suspect in the hunt for the Brixton nail bomber have been released by Scotland Yard after being enhanced by FBI and Nasa technicians and by British

scientists (Stewart Tendler writes). They show a 5ft 6in white man in his twenties, who was photographed in the centre of Brixton carrying a sports bag similar to the one containing the bomb which exploded on April 17, injuring 39

people.

The man is seen arriving in the area with the bag about an hour and a half before the blast and is later seen without the bag. One section of film shows him walking away from the bus stop in the High Road, where the bomb was left. It was

moved by a passer-by to the corner of an iceland store, where it went off - and the man is also seen there.

Assistant Commissioner David Veness, of the Metropolitan Police, said: "We have a range of material which leads us to the unequivocal view that the investigation focuses on this man's face. It is our number one priority to identify this man."



Nato missile hits wrong capital GIVENG

FROM CHARLES BREMNER IN BRUSSELS

NATO sought yesterday to limit the diplomatic damage from an air-launched missile which went astray and destroyed a house in the suburbs of Sofia. the capital of Bulgaria.

In the latest blunder of the air campaign, the alliance said the missile strayed after it had been fired at a Serbian surface-to-air missile site that had tracked it with radar. "After the ground radar was turned off, the missile strayed from its target and unintentionally landed in Bulgaria," Jamie

Shea, Nato's spokesman, said. The Bulgarians, whose capital is 40 miles from the Serbian frontier, said the missile was fired by an FI6 which had entered its air space. The missile hit a house in which a family was sleeping but no one was

Nato offered its regrets to Bulgaria, where the Government has been backing the Nato campaign despite extensive public and political opposition. The alliance promised to ensure that there was no repeat of the incident. General Henry Kievenaar, of the US Army, was sent to apologise to President Stoyanov, who ex-

pressed "great concern". As Javier Solana, the Nato Secretary-General, sought to reassure the Bulgarian Ambas-sador to the alliance, Russia seized on the incident as an example of what the Foreign Ministry called the "insanity" of the campaign. "The circle of states which have fallen under Nato's stray rockets is steadily expanding . . . the Bulgarian capital joined Albania and Macedonia on the list last

night," the ministry said. Bulgaria, a would-be memher of Nato and the European Union, voiced annoyance and said three other Nato missiles had landed on its territory earlier. 'There has not been such a drastic violation of our airspace so far," said Bogomil Boney, the Interior Minister. Bulgaria would sue the pilot for the damage and distress to the house's occupants, he said.

Despite the incident, the Government is expected to go ahead with a proposal to the Bulgarian parliament to provide Nato with a 70- to 90-mile air corridor along the western

Nadezhda Mihailova, the Foreign Minister, urged Nato to supply Bulgaria with sophisticated radar equipment to improve the country's ability to identify aircraft. Bulgaria would also mark its western border with lights so allied pilots could see where they were

going, she said. Nato is reinforcing its air armada in the Balkans. The RAF yesterday committed eight more warplanes - four Harriers and four Tornados - and the Pentagon announced it was sending ten more B52 bombers to Europe.

> Photograph, page 19 War reports, pages 18-20 Leading article and

Sack Lilley, senior WILLIAM HAGUE is being

They blame Mr Lilley, who is in charge of the Tory policy review, for springing on Mr Hague his controversial speech setting limits on the role of the private sector in health and education, and for

is being attacked for what front-benchers claim is the failure so far of the policy review. The Times has learnt that Mr Hague is to take a much greater hands-on role in the policy process since the events of the past few days. He has accepted criticism that the re-

unfocused. A close aide to Mr Hague said: "There's a lack of pace, energy and creativity about our policy-making." He added that Mr Hague could sack Mr Lilley without any fear of a backlash from the party: "There are no Lilley support-ers on the backbenches."

> Peter Riddell, page 15 Simon Jenkins, page 26



Pinochet may be given legal aid

BY JOANNA BALE

BRITISH taxpayers could be saddled with a multimillionpound legal bill from General Pinochet after Lord Irvine, the Lord Chancellor, announced that the former dictator may

be entitled to legal aid. Until now. General Pinochet's £1 million legal costs have been funded by donations from supporters in Chile. But, amid fears that the money could run out. Lord Lamont of Lerwick, in a written question in parliament, asked Lord Irvine if General Pinocher could be entitled to legal aid.

Lord Irvine's answer, made on Wednesday, was: "Yes. Any nerson in proceedings such as these may apply for legal aid and it would be for the courts to decide whether legal aid is granted." Lord Lamont said yesterday: "I asked this question because it seems to me to be grossly unfair that Senator Pinochet should be held in this country in such a scandalous way and be expected to pay a legal bill which may run into

many millions of pounds." A spokeswoman for the Lord Chancellor said General Pinochet's finances would be thoroughly investigated before he was granted legal aid. "The bulk of the cost would be met from central government funds," she said.

Fernando Barros. General Pinocher's legal adviser, said supporters would continue to donate money but legal aid was a possible alternative if the funds began to run out.



"Who ordered the triple

Heart surgery on the pub floor

A doctor who performed open-heart surgery on a stab-bing victim while he lay on a pub floor saved his life. Dr Heather Clark of The Royal London Hospital opened Stephen Niland's chest with scissors as drinkers stood by discussing football.... Page 5

Tories tell Hague BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ROLAND WATSON

urged by senior Conservatives and close political aides to sack Peter Lilley, his deputy. after the public services row that has damaged the party in the run-up to the mid-term elections.

failing to allow enough time

for consultation on it. They also criticise him for failing to foresee the political fallout that would be caused by the shift in the middle of the campaign for the elections. At the same time Mr Lilley

Courts trump Parliament over a vacancy that never was

MATTHEW PARRIS

SHORTLY before three o'clock yesterday afternoon, a small blonde lady in a chie little black suit with brass buttons stood beneath the neo-Gothic portals of the St Stephen's entrance to the House of Commons and posed in the April sunshine for the press. Fiona Jones was an MP again.

The former Member for Newark, removed after a conviction for election offences, has been returned to her post

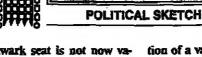
crowd gathered to witness the

And occasion it was. On Wednesday Ms Jones was apparently not an MP. Today she apparently is. There has not been an election. This sketch stands open to correction, but in my memory this is the first person ever to be created a Member of Parliament by the High Court.

Or has she? Madam Speaker was exquisitely vague when she announced the deciafter winning an appeal sion to MPs after Questions against conviction. A modest at 12.30pm. The Divisional Court, she told the Commons, had decided that the constitu-ency of Newark "is not

Not vacant? Plainly, then, it is now occupied. But was it occupied before?

Madam Speaker's short statement appeared to take the form of a newsflash rather than a ruling. It was not the Chair pronouncing Ms Jones a Member of Parliament she was simply telling MPs what a court had decided. To report, as (as it were) an observation, that the



cant, begs a question: has the seat been vacant these last few weeks, after Ms Jones was removed -- or apparently

If not, if she never was validly removed, then the court has trumped Madam Speaker herself and voided Miss Boothroyd's earlier declaration of a vacancy. Will Jones now be reimbursed for lost salary and allowances?

But what if her appeal had not begun until after a replacement MP had been elected in a by-election? What if (say) new evidence had come to light, exonerating her -but after the poll? Would the newcomer then be stripped of

the office to which the electors of Newark thought they had just elected him or her? Presumably. That would be a rum state of affairs. Lucky that the Tories' recent bid to trigger the by election failed!

If, however, the court's ruling allows that there was, temporarily, a situation made vacant by Madam Speaker's ruling - to which they have now reinstated the previous incumbent - then a court has bypassed both electorate and Parliament and created someone an MP. Should Jones not

take the Oath a second time? That, too, would be a rum state of affairs.

Why was this matter ever passed to the courts? Was the Chair not the appropriate authority to review its own ruling? Your sketchwriter is no constitutional lawyer, but the whiff of jurisprudential confusion, and perhaps error, is strong. Miss Boothroyd is right at least in this: the thing's a mess.

For Fiona Jones the mess did not spoil a triumphant end to a turbulent day. Nor Allen, the Government whip for her region, met her at the entrance and escorted her in to the Chamber. The House was almost empty. MPs were discussing the Green Belt.

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Ms Jones sat down next to Joe Ashton, the MP who has recently endured a spot of bother over his visits to a Thai massage parlour in Northampton, and survived. There was no finger-wagging by either to either. Great is the mutual compassion of former refusées.

Law on election expenses to be re-written

NEW laws governing election expenses will be in place before the next general election, government officials indicated yesterday after the High Court reinstated Fiona Jones as Labour MP for Newark.

Jack Straw, the Home Secretary, will publish a draft Bill in the summer which paves the way for a newly created electoral commission to clarify the area.

The Government stressed its determination to clear up the confusion, which sees candidates from all parties breach spending limits, just hours af-ter the conclusion of the Fiona

Jones saga. Lord Justice Kennedy, sit-ting with Mr Justice Mitchell, declared that Mrs Jones was entitled to resume her seat weeks after her conviction for election fraud at Nottingham Crown Court.

Although the appeal court had already overturned her conviction and sentence of 100 hours' community service, the Speaker had asked the High Court to rule on whether the Representation of the People Act 1983 allowed Mrs Jones to return automatically to the

Following the verdict. Mrs Jones, 42, a mother of two. spoke briefly outside the court of the strain the case had imposed on her family, before returning to Westminster. She said: "I am absolutely

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Reinstatement

of Labour MP prompts new

Bill, writes

Roland Watson

delighted. It has been a very stressful time for me and my family. I am looking forward to taking my seat back and representing the people of

Mr Straw's draft Bill, which will implement the Neili Commission's recommendations on party funding and conduct of elections, will go forward as part of the Government's new legislative programme later this year.

Ministers will look to the electoral commission to rewrite Schedule 3 of the Representation of the People Act which covers the cost of sending telegrams but not of using mobile phones, although it is unclear whether such a change would need primary

It will also clarify what is a declarable election expense, the grey area which led to Mrs Jones's conviction.

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by Lord Neill and to spearhead a drive aimed at raising the low level of turnout in British elections by promoting a new spirit of civic duty.

Shortly after yesterday's verdict. Mrs Jones posed for pho-tographers outside Westminster's St Stephen's entrance before being escorted into a largely-deserted chamber by Graham Allen, MP for Nottingham North and Labour's

regional whip. In court, Philip Sales, counsel for John Morris, the Attor-ney-General, said the Speaker and House of Commons au-thorities were "neutral" about whether quashing Mrs Jones's guilty verdict which cost her her seat allowed her to re-enter the Commons without a by-election. He said the House was seeking to have parliamentary law clarified.

Roy Amlot QC. appearing for Mrs Jones, argued that under the Representation of the People Act, any impediment to her return had been removed. The final word in Mrs

Jones's saga was greeted with relief by both parties, neither of which wanted to fight a Although the Tories had al-

ready selected Richard Alexander, the former MP beaten by Mrs Jones in 1997 when she won a 3,000 majority, party officials were nervous about the effect of a poor showing on William Hague, the Tory leader.

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Fiona Jones back at Parliament yesterday after being told she can resume her seat

'Right to roam' Bill meets new hurdle

BY PHILIP WEBSTER POLITICAL EDITOR

Legislation giving ramblers a legal right to roam over four million acres of mountains. moors, heaths and downs has been delayed for at least a year because of pressure on the Government's programme.

John Prescott, the Environment Secretary, has been unable to secure a slot in the next parliamentary programme for the measure, which Labour promised in its election mani-festo and which has been seen as a memorial to the late John Smith, the former party leader and a keen walker.

The measure seems to have been squeezed out of the list for the next Queen's Speech, discussed yesterday by the Cabinet, by a measure that will enable government advis-ers to take over further education colleges that are giving cause for concern.

But Mr Prescott has secured a promise that a draft Bill will be published during the next session, which is as close as he can get to a guarantee that the legislation will be contained in the 2000-2001 programme, possibly the last before the next election. He has also won slots for two substantial Bills in the next session - a transport Bill to improve the running of Britain's rail companies and extend the introduction of road pricing schemes, and a local government Bill that will al-

low councils across the country to follow the example of London and have elected may-

Booth charity involved in legal aid dispute

By Frances GIBB LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE row over the Government's plans to shake up legal aid intensified yesterday as a charity backed by Cherie Booth, QC, said that battered women could find it harder to

find emergency legal help.
Refuge, the domestic violence charity of which the
Prime Minister's wife is a management council member, came out in support of the Law Society's advertising campaign opposing the proposals, Lord Irvine of Lairg, the

Lord Chancellor, has accused the society of "propagating un-truths" and causing needless concern among members of the public. He says that legal aid will still be available for victims of domestic violence and that there will be "no shortage of quality-assured legal aid lawyers".

But yesterday Refuge said that it leared that women who needed urgent help could find it harder to obtain advice from a solicitor they trusted because the plans will restrict legal aid work to firms awarded contracts. Only firms reaching guaranteed quality standards

will win contracts. The charity says that some rural areas could be left without local solicitors' firms with contracts and a victim's choice of lawyer would be reduced at a time when it was essential

the victim trusted her solicitor. It also raised fears that connow about £740 million a year, could mean that even women who qualified for legal aid were denied help if the pot

ran dry.

A Law Society advertisement in national newspapers today says: "Her partner uses her as his personal punchbag. Now the Government is about to deliver another wounding

blow."

☐ Labour backbench MPs are backing moves for reforms of the justice system including the abolition of wigs and the creation of a register of judges' interests.

Andrew Dismore, Labour MP for Hendon, has tabled amendments to Lord Irvine of Lairg's Access to Justice Bill aimed at modernizing the justice system.

He is calling for the abolition or overhaul of the queen's counsel system; a regiser of judges' interests; a judicial appointments commission; and modernization of court dress.

Mr Dismore, whose propos-als are supported by many backbench Labour MPs, said yesterday: "This Bill provides the ideal opportunity to mod-ernise other aspects of the justice system. Queen's counsel are an expensive anachronism working in the interests of lawyers, not the public. Radical reform is needed; otherwise, they should be abolished."

There also needed to be a more open system of appointing judges, through an Appointments commission.

Give away NHS, urges new book

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By Ian Murray MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

RATIONING and scarcity are built into the National Health Service, turning it into the last failed nationalised industry, according to a book published today by the Intitute of Eco-

nomic Affairs.
The right-wing think tank report says the NHS needs to be denationalised and given to local communities as charitable trusts along the lines of many hospitals in Europe. The author, John Spiers, a

former chairman of the Patients' Association, argues that this would transfer the responsibility for the renewal of as-sets from the public domain to local ownership. A framework of regulation for quality and service would ensure stand-ards while the State's role would be restricted to protecting freedom of local choice.

Professor Spiers says with demand for care overwhelmingly overtaking supply, the advantages of a public sector monopoly are being out-weighed by the disadvantages.

Leading article, page 27

'Bombers foiled by surveillance'

By Michael Horsnell

AN IRISH republican terrorist plot to bomb London after the Good Friday Agreement was foiled by a huge surveillance operation, the Old Bai-

ley was told yesterday.

The security services and police recovered six incendiary devices, with which three men allegedly planned to blitz furni-ture and other stores, and a 2 lb Semtex bomb.

As their moves were watched and recorded, one of the men unwittingly asked a surveillance officer for directions across London. In another twist, an undercover woman police officer rented a room in a flat where a suspect was

staying.
Anthony Hyland, 26, Dar-ren Mulholland, 20, and Liam Grogan, 22, all pleaded not guilty to conspiracy to cause explosions.

Nigel Sweeney, prosecuting, told the jury that the devices were covered in talcum powder and wrapped in clingfilm before being packed into Tuppaware boxes when they were brought by ferry into Britain from Dublin by Hyland. Mulholland allegedly reconnoitred six furniture, bedding. carpet and curtain stores in the Fulham Broadway area.

Mr Sweeney told the jury: "You will want to consider why he paid short visits to these shops. Was it getting the feel for the city and the cost of living as he claimed? Or was he reconnoitring potential targets with plenty of combusti-ble material in which to place incendiary bombs."

Mr Sweeney said: "In a curi-ous twist Mulholland asked a person who he thought was a member of the public, but was in fact one of the police surveillance officers . . . for directions to Queens Park." Muliholland and Hyland re-

turned to freiand but came back separately five days later. This time Grogan came too. An undercover woman police officer using the name Nicola Walker had paid a £900 deposit on the spare room at the flat where Hyland

was staying.
Using her key, police gained access and found the Semtex bomb. The three men were then arrested.

The case continues today.

Lords squabble over a point of grammar

By James Landale, Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR, like ali Prime Ministers, knew that one day he would face a Cabinet split. But not, surely, over gram-

Yesterday the Cabinet took time out from discussing the latest developments in Kosovo to consider the vital issue of whether one should say "a" or "an" hereditary peerage.

While some ministers insisted it was "a", both Baroness Jay of Paddington, the Leader of the Lords, and Clare Short, the Internationai Development Secretary, preferred "an".

The issue had been raised by Margaret Beckett, Leader of the Commons, to illustrate one of the ways in which peers were trying to delay the Lords reform Bill. She told her colleagues how, early on Wednesday, a Tory hereditary peer had tabled an amendment to the main clause of the Bill which says that "no-one shall be a member of the House of Lords by virtue of a heredilary peerage". Earl Ferrers insisted that

the collective noun to describe his tribe should be preceded by "an". But Lord Williams of Mostyn, the Home Office Minister, argued that previous Acts of Parliament referred to "a hereditary peerage". After seven minutes of erudite debate, almost a hundred peers voted and decided by a majority of 32 that it was "a hereditary pecrage".

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THE TIMES FRIDAY APRIL 30 1999 Mayfair loses its grip on lofty living

The latest des reses are now in consumerist Clerkenwell and commuter country, Rachel Kelly and Simon de Bruxelles report

POR decades they have enjoyed the quiet certainty that they live in the country's most expensive des reses. But now the white-rinsed doyennes of Mayfair and Chelsea are being rudely knocked off their residential perches.

New money, new postcodes, it seems, as government figures reveal that today's buyers are prepared to pay more for loft-style pads in trendy Clerkenwell, London, or fancy purpose-built mansions in the leafy outskirts of Leatherhead,

Surrey. New figures from the Land Registry show that the country's fourth most expensive postcode is Clerkenwell, where the average price paid for a house last year was £464.166 and residents include footballers and television pre-

Britain's most expensive address outside the capital is a tiny "golden triangle" in the West Country. The average price of a property in the un-

spoilt greenbelt villages just north-west of Bath was £461,666 last year. The BA19 postal area is close to the M4 and the mainline rail link to the capital.

The most expensive of the suburbs Leatherhead. eighth. A house in this leafy commuting country would set you back

an average of £438,519. Park Lane now languishes in tenth place, with houses costing £407,841, while Chelsea is the ninth most expensive, with houses at E423,540.

Only the residents of Knightsbridge can relax as usual: SW7 is the most expensive post-code of all, with houses costing £530,484. Its is followed by an area dubbed "Brompton": streets such as Cadogan Place, Cadogan Square and Lowndes Square.

Simon Agace, from the agents Winkworth: said: "A different sort of money is buya buyer will be a city broker, who is single, mid-thirties, who isn't interested in having a family and has plenty of prime time to go to restaurants and bars. Many buyers are single professional women.

The hallmark of Clerkenwell is lofts - large industrial spaces converted into airy open-planned wooden floored temples to consumerism.

The area to the north of the City has seen factories, warehouses and engineering plants converted by developers such as the Manhattan Loft Corporation and Berkeley Homes,

tra-terrestrial invaders in H.G. Wells's War of the Worlds, is Britain's most ex-

ers' agents Property Vision said: "It's pure commuting country," he said, "There are likely to have been one or two very expensive, one-off, possi-bly newly built houses which would have

There are age up." Michael Caine bought a house many more near Leatherhead recently and the tennis player Jeremy Bates also lives there. Mr Agace said: "You might

M4 today' office from home to run their own IT or Internet business. And there are plenty of Americans who will pay good money to be near the American school in Cobham."

The magic BA19 postcode stretches two miles to the north west of Bath into the southern fringes of the Cotswolds. It includes the villages of North Stoke, Lansdown, Charlcombe, Weston, Hamswell, Lower Hamswell, Woolley, Kelston, Kelston Mills and

ing in Clerkenwell. Typically.

people

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Leatherhead, best known for being the first target of ex-

pensive suburb. Willie Gething, of the buy-

brought the aver-

fight someone who is chief executive of an insurance business, or someone who can set up and

Langridge.
According to the estate

agents, it is commuters keen to escape from London who have been pushing up prices. Paddy

£530.484 Knightsbridge SW1X 9 £496,726 Brompton SW1X 7 £488.300 Knightsbridge WC1N 2 £464,166 BA19 £461666 W1Y 5 £456,176 £446,176 **SW1X8** Belgravia KT22 0 £438,519 SW3 4 £423,540 10 £407.841 WIYS



Bath townhouse that recently sold for £450,000. Famed for its Georgian architectu and Roman baths and other remains, residents of Bath and its environs include entrepreneur James Dyson, pop-star Peter Gabriel, Roger Cook and broadcaster Jonathan Dimbleby. New buyers seek period properties seeking a pleasant retirement prefer converted flats in the town centre.

Stewart-Morgan, a partner home in the most sought-after with the estate agents Cluttons villages will sell for more than Daniel Smith, said: "Any-£500,000, often within days. where close to the M4 and the Prices have risen by 10 to 20 mainline station at Chippenper cent in the last six months ham will command a premiand show no sign of slowing um but this area is particulardown. The rise is being fuelled by low interest rates, the It is probably one of the amount of "idle" money sitting

least densely populated parts of the west country and there are not many houses there so when one does come up competition is intense. The average price has been bumped up by the fact that of the handful of houses which are sold each year most are large rural properties with land.

There are many more people coming down the M4 than two or three years ago. They are looking for a better quality of life and it is far easier now to work two or three days a

Any substantial family

Century farmhouse at Wooiley on the market for E750,000 and expects it to sell within days. Last month his firm sold a £450,000 house with self-contained flat in Lansdowne for the asking price in two days.

"Money is so cheap to borrow at the moment there has never been a better time to buy and people are taking advan-tage of it. Bath is cheaper and safer than most places in Lon-don and lots of people are buyaging director of the estate agents Pritchard and Parting second homes here.
"There is a lot of growth in

STATE SHIP ALLES MOST EXPENSIVE ADDRESSES

Hyde Park

CHELSEA 2

Sloane Square

Leatherhead is a typical,

One agent de

average suburban town which

car park in the town centre

include Michael Caine and Jeremy Bates, Hamptons International are seiling this house in nearby Shamley

Green for around £410,000.

and an inner ring road s

this area, particularly Swin-don, but people would rather live in Bath and commute." Paul Jarman, Chairman of

the Bath Auctioneers' and Estate Agents' Society, said: "We sold three properties in that area last year that each fetched either just above or below El million.

erty in another village near Bath, which has just gone on the market but we already have two people willing to pay in excess of the asking price. "For homeowners the prop-

③

worked there. Now the area is buzzing with

warehouse conversions, where the young

and single enjoy high ceitings, stripped wood floors, and lateral living. Famous residents include footballer Clive Sindair, television

presenter Angus Deayton, and Goldman Sachs economist Gavyn Davis, Winkworth i

selling a two bedroom, two bathroom flat at

No 5 Rutland Gate.

Kulghtsbridge, is a two bedroom cottage within

house has an en suite

of a communal garden. Agents Cluttons Daniel Smith are selling the

house for £495,000. Residents of the white-

Actorian houses in

girl Tara Palmer

Lord Carrington

inightsbridge famed for its

opping at Harrods and

shows how healthy the market

is, but it will undoubtedly

have an effect on first-time buy-

The boom is not just con-

fined to Bath. Estate agents all

over the West Country are re-

porting Eighties-style price ris-

es. The prices of some proper-

"There is a shortage of prop-

erty on the market and de-

mand is outstripping supply.

Properties are even traded

without hitting the market -

we can sell in a day."

properties to rent.

gone really crazy.

alking distance of Hyde

shower room and bathroo

sbery Avenue, for £465,000.

the New Riverhead develop

KNIGHT SENIORE STORE STORE

ST PANCRAS

(5)

erry boom is good news." The boom, however, is pricing local house-hunters out of the market. Estate agent Peter Weeks, an associate partner for Davis, Meade and Part-ners, said: "Bath is a very sought-after location at the moment because it is a beautiful place to live.

"The city does not really have any suburbs so you can live just a few miles outside the centre and be in the middle of the country. The majority of people are not buying them as second homes but coming to live here and commute to wherever they are going. There are even enquiries

"We have one £700,000 prop- from overseas and it just

Party animals ruin a father's weekend

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

A COUNCIL leader who took a weekend break at a health farm to light stress re-turned to find his home wrecked by revellers at his teenaged daughter's birth-

day party. Paul Bettison found blood smeared on the walls of his £300,000 detached home in the Berkshire vil-lage of Little Sandhurst, the aftermath of several fights. The carpets were covered in cigarette burns and the front door had been broken down with an iron bar.

He later discovered that a sleep-over for a handful of close friends of his daughter, Clare, 15, had descended into chaos after one made a public announcement over a loudspeaker at an ice rink.

Mr Bettison, the Conservative leader of Bracknell Forest Council, said yesterday: "She announced there was an open house and that everyone was welcome, be-fore giving our address. This girl, who I believe is 16 today, had also put up a poster at the ice rink to the same effect and leaflets were distributed as far afield as Reading, 20 miles away. "The result was 300 peo-

ple turned up from all over Berkshire. Every school in our borough was represented. They were mixed in age from 14 to 20."

Mr Bettison said he had not spoken to the un-named girl's parents since the incident last weekend. "I will be leaving that to my solicitor and the police."

ties in Bristol have leapt 15 per Police with sniffer dogs are expected to search the cent since Christmas as wealthy businessmen buy up house for drugs at his request after he learned that Eestasy and cannabis had

Howard Davis, area manager of estate agents C. J. Hole, been sold. said: "Since Christmas it has Mr Bettison, 46, and his "Interest rates have gone down and a lot of people are relocating to the area on con-

wife. Jean, had left Clare and her younger sister, Emi-ly, 14. at their home while they went to a Hampshire bealth farm. He said: "My daughter was terrified for both her and her friends' safety, not to mention the fear of what I would do."

social desert for It Girl Tara

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

THE Meadows clinic may come as a mide shock to an "It Girl". Hundreds of miles from the nearest concentration of nightclubs, it is an austere, refurbished ranch with an unheated pool and a clientele of rich but penitent addicts. Tara Palmer-Tomkinson

who has reportedly checked in there to "slow down" after years on the European party circuit, would fit in nicely, but only if she was not bothered by teams of psychiatrists and strict ten-minute limits on her telephone calls. Fifty miles northwest of

Phoenix in the Arizona desert, The Meadows treats alcoholics, drug and sex addicts, victims of eating disorders and the elite of dependency-sufferers, those with "addiction interaction". It is unclear to which category Miss Palmer-Tomkinson belongs. John Nye, the clinic's spokesman, said yester-day that "patient confidentiality is taken very seriously here. It's a matter of federal law." Officials would not even confirm that the lissome night-owl and Sunday Times Magazine columnist had arrived.

By coincidence, however, a glimpse of the sex addiction treatment regime at the clinic is revealed in a 6,000-word cov-



Palmer-Tomkinson: stay could cost \$1,000 a day

er story in next month's Fortune magazine. "Most of my patients are chief executives, or doctors or attorneys or priests," says Patrick Carnes, the centre's director of sexual disorder services. "We have corporate America's leadership marching through here. and they are paying cash be-cause they don't want anybody to know.

The clinic also treats American sports stars in droves, and occasional foreign celebrities and socialites: Miss Palmer-Tomkinson is following in the footsteps of, among others, Cosima Somerset, a former friend of Diana, Princess of Wales, treated for depression in 1997. Treatment costs \$900 to \$1000 (£560 to £625) a day.

Scrap dealer denies killing

BY RICHARD DUCK

A SCRAP metal dealer vesterday denied a dramatic court room accusation that he killed his millionaire father-in-law's common-law wife.

Michael Fitzpatrick, 37, is alleged to have been the go-between in finding Derek Goldsmith a hitman to murder Diana Goldsmith because he wanted custody of their two children. But at Maidstone Crown Court yesterday, Fitz-patrick, who has a record of violent crime, was accused of instigating the plan to abduct Mrs Goldsmith and to scare her into abandoning the children.

Timothy Langdale, QC, defending Mr Goldsmith on charges of murder and conspiracy to murder, said Fitzpatrick knew he could ingratiate himself with his father-in-law if Mrs Goldsmith could be persuaded to disappear. It was put to Fitzpatrick di-

rectly: "The plan to abduct Diana, to warn her and scare her off went wrong because you killed her." Fitzpatrick replied: "No I did not. I have got nothing from her death. I had every-thing and now I have lost it."

The court has been told that Mrs Goldsmith, 44, was abducted from her home in Sevenoaks by two men, Ian Colligan and Michael Danaher, in January 1995. She was never

seen alive again and her body was found two years later buried in a garden in Bromley,

around in deposit accounts and an exodus of formerly

Michael Hughes, the man-

ners, said: 'The demand and

influence of London buyers

has really boosted the market.

Londoners are realising it is

Firms are moving staff to

Last week Mr Hughes put a

the area between Swindon,

Bristol and Gloucester, caus-

detached, five-bed, early-18th

ing a demand for homes.

young professionals

growing families.

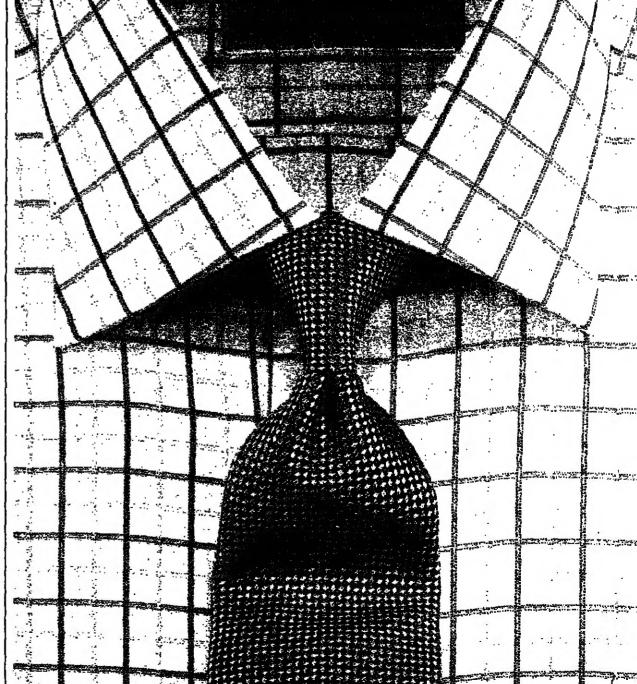
easy to commute."

southeast London. Mr Langdale told Fitzpatrick: "The truth is that after Diana Goldsmith was taken from her home by Colligan and Danaher you saw her and lost it. You caused her death by going too far in her scar-

Fitznatrick denied the claim and in his evidence yesterday said it was Mr Goldsmith who had come to him to try to find a hitman. He said he had put him in touch with Colligan. Mr Langdale said it was fortunate for Fitzpatrick that Colligan was now dead and could not offer contradictory evidence.

Fitzpatrick has admitted conspiracy to murder and is a key witness for the prosecution. He is married to Mr Goldsmith's daughter from a previous marriage. At one point he said: "You can make me out to be a scumbag as much as you want but you can't change the facts of this case."

It is alleged that Mr Goldsmith, 62, from Edenbridge, Kent, paid Colligan £20,000 to murder Mrs Goldsmith as part of a "calculated and wickplot to get custody of his The trial continues.



Barbecue battle losers left fuming

BY ROBIN YOUNG

A SIX-YEAR battle between neighbours over a barbecue has left the losers with a £12,000 legal bill - and no prospect of

relief from cooking smells.
Esther and Paul Harris, both 70, claimed that smoke from their neighbour's barbecue filled every room of their £700,000 home in Little Venice, West London. The couple told a hearing at the Central London County Court that, at the height of summer, they were repeatedly forced to close every window in their four-storey house to keep out the

smoke from Mike Ross's barbecue. They retaliated by leaving a radio playing loudly next to his balcony and once turned a garden hose on his barbecue. Yesterday, however, they withdrew their case against Mr Ross after Judge Simon Goldstein had intimated that they

were going to lose and suggested they might like to save further legal costs.

Mr Ross, 60, an American, started using the barbecue on the balcony of his first-floor flat, less than three metres from his neighbours' windows, in 1993. Mr Harris told the court: "After the first occasion I went to see Mr Ross and said it was not really sociable behaviour to fill our house with smoke. I said: Whatever you are cooking, cook it in the kitchen. That's the proper place. Despite continued protests, Mr Ross, an artist, continued using his barbecue. Environmental health officers had told him

he was free to continue. Judge Goldstein, when shown a picture of the lit barbecue by Mr Harris. asked: "Why can't I see any smoke in the picture? All I can see is a tiny, and I mean really tiny, puff of smoke." Mr Harris replied: "This is one of the mysteries. It fills our house, but when you look

at it, it does not seem very smoky."

After the court was told that the Harris es had made exaggerated claims about the barbecue in the past, Judge Gold-stein urged Mrs Harris, who was representing herself, to drop the case. If she lost, the costs would be high, he told her. Speaking after the hearing, Mrs Har-ris, a retired teacher, said: "As far as Mr

stop the smoke from filling our home." Mr Ross indicated after the hearing that he was keen to seek a truce, though he would definitely be barbecuing again this summer. However, he had yet to decide whether to invite the Harrises.

Ross is concerned, we are the neighbours from hell. But we only wanted to

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BBC security is tightened after death threat

BBC staff were issued with a four-point safety plan yester-Staff are given day as Tony Hall, the chief exchecklist of ecutive of BBC News, remained under police protecsafety-first tion after receiving a death threat from a caller claiming procedures, Eddie Halling, a former de-

to be a Serb activist.

tective superintendent who is

now the BBC's chief of secur-

ity, urged presenters to be-

ware of phone calls and letters

from alleged fans. He also or-

dered a tightening of security measures at all BBC build-

ings.

Mr Halling said that any suspicious incidents should be

reported and he offered guid-

ance via the BBC's in-house

Mr Hall and his family

were moved to a safe house af-ter a telephone caller said that

the murder of the BBC present-

er Jill Dando had been to

avenge Nato's bombing of a

Belgrade television station.

magazine, Ariel.

reports Carol Midgeley

and that he was next on the

Mr Halling said that threatening mail and calls were often received by radio and television presenters and should be taken seriously. "A lot of it is of no more than nuisance value but occasionally a case crops up that goes beyond that."

He has advised all BBC staff to report immediately any sus-picious incidents, including unsolicited phone calls, letters or

other unwelcome communication purporting to come from an admirer. Staff should also report any suspicions that they are being followed. They should not answer the door at home unless they can identify the visitor. They should keep any written or taped messages, and take a note of the description of anyone behaving suspiciously, and any other relevant details such as car registration numbers.

A BBC spokesman said that security arrangements were being reviewed on a daily basis. Extra security staff had been drafted in to patrol the corporation's buildings. The spokesman added: "We

are reviewing physical security arrangements but we have also advised staff on care and cautions with regard to their personal security."

The BBC announced yesterday that it is dropping the new television series featuring Jill

POLICE APPEAL FOR ASSISTANCE



Do you recognise the description of this man?

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or if you don't want to give your caute, ring Crimestoppers of O800 555 111

A poster appeal from police hunting Jill Dando's killer

Dando, the first programme of which was screened on the day before she was killed.

The decision to cancel Antiques Inspectors, in which Miss Dando accompanied experts from the Antiques Roadshow in rummaging through the contents of volunteers' lofts and garages, is be-lieved to have been made after

consultations between BBC and her family.

A second programme had already been made and was due to be shown this Sunday evening, but it will be replaced by an edition of Antiques Roadshow. A BBC spokeswoman said: "I don't think we have any plans to show them at a

Serbian exiles reject link to Dando murder

By MICHAEL HARVEY

yesterday dismissed as "utter rubbish" the idea that Serb death threats had been made against Tony Hall, BBC News chief executive, or that a Serb gunman murdered

They conceded it was possible that a Serb nationalist fanatic could harbour a grudge against the BBC over its coverage of the Kosovo conflict, but they could not conceive that it could be taken as far as the murder of the Crimewatch presenter.

Jovan Ratkovic, press officer for the Serbian Information Centre, said: "The Serb community is well educated and well connected and we would have heard at least rumours if anyone was plan-ning such attacks.

"It makes no sense at all to kill someone like Jill Dando. There are more important figures whom we could hate, but we want a peaceful solution. There are fanatics in our com-

SERB community leaders ty. but attacking journalists is unthinkable."

In Whitehall a hardy band of Serbs continued their protests against Nato airstrikes. The demonstrators' placards spelt out their anger against the perceived bias of the BBC with slogans such as "Nato lies, the BBC complies" and "BBC stop glorifying illegal

The organiser, Draza Radojkovic. 36, of the British-Serbian Alliance for Peace. said: "To claim Serbs are responsible for these death threats is wrong. It must be a

Serb nationalists in Britain have been kept under height-ened surveillance by the security services since the start of the Kosovo conflict, but Home Office sources confirmed that M15 and Special Branch were not aware of any Serb terrorist cells operating in Britain. More than 50,000 Serbs live in Britain.

War coverage, pages 18-20

Patient's dying pain haunted GP for life

By Paul Wilkinson, north east correspondent

A FAMILY doctor accused of killing of a cancer patient told a court yesterday of the moment when, as a young doctor, he believed that he had let a dving woman down by failing to stop her pain.

to stop her pain.

David Moor, who denies murdering George Liddell with a lethal injection in July last year, said: "I had an appalling experience in 1976 with an elderly woman who was dying from cancer of the gwaries." ing from cancer of the ovaries. She was in anguish and dis-tress and I promised to relieve her suffering and gave her an injection of morphine.

The next day I went to see her and she was in extreme pain. She stared me in the face and said: You promised me I would be free from pain.' I failed her — it was the most ag-onising moment of my medical career."

Dr Moor, 52, from Stamford-Newcastle upon Tyne Crown Court that he had promised Mr Liddell, an 85-year-old retired ambulanceman, that he would relieve his pain. "When first met George Liddell he was wasted, weak, frail and had given up the will to live.

No Gimmicks,

Just simple

No Games,

savings

on your

by his bed with my hand on his knee, saying: What do you want me to do for you? He asked me to get rid of the pain and I told him I could promise

Asked by Anthony Arlidge, his defence barrister, if he set out to kill the pensioner "willynilly", he replied: "I never set out to kill anyone willy-nilly. But I have certainly set out to ease the discomfort and distress of my patients and give them a pain-free death. But I never set out to kill anyone."

Dr Moor, who has retired from his inner-city surgery in Fenham, Newcastle, since Mr Liddell's death, is accused of helping his cancer patient to die by giving him three lethal morphine injections.

A Home Office pathologist

told the trial last week that he believed Mr Liddell was not terminally ill. But Dr Moor have long to live. "With hindsight, it may be I was wrong in gressive cancer ... I had no doubt in my mind he was going to die."

AUSTRIA 101

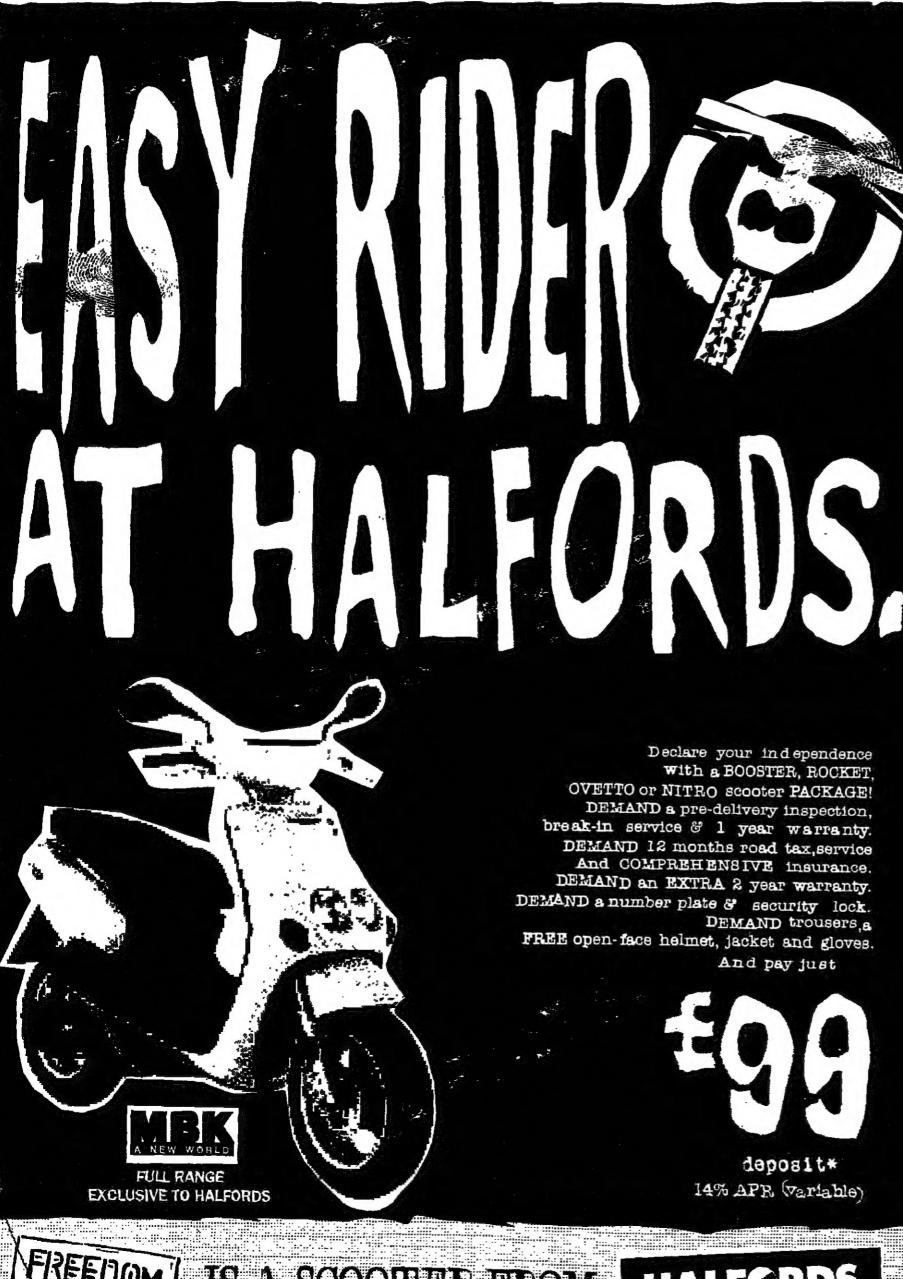
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The case continues.





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Open-heart surgery on pub floor saves stabbing victim

Doctor cut man open with scissors as customers discussed football, writes Adam Fresco

SAVING A LIFE ON A PUB FLOOR

A DOCTOR brought the vica booten things the vietor of a stabbing back to life by performing open-heart surgery on the floor of a public house, it was disclosed yesterday. It is believed to be only the fourth time that a nation the fourth time that a patient anywhere has survived the operation outside a hospital. When Dr Heather Clark

who was still being supervised just weeks into her new job, saw Stephen Niland, 22, lying unconscious on the floor of the pub after being stabbed in the heart she knew there was only one chance of saving his life.

Without time to get the prop er surgical equipment, she used a pair of scissors to cut across his ribcage and through his breastbone so that she could work on the exposed heart. She had only a few min-utes before the lack of oxygen caused brain damage.
It was a procedure she had

never carried out before, but by chance had seen it performed two days earlier in the back of an ambulance. Mr Niland is only the third person to survive such an operation without brain damage.

When the first ambulance crew reached the scene, at The Swan in Stratford, east London, they put out a call to the helicopter emergency medical team based at The London

Although the team had finished an hour earlier, two members were still talking about the work they had done

Patient's chest is cut open to gain access to rib cage

drive to the scene to see if they

When Dr Clark, 35, an accident and emergency registrar, arrived, Mr Niland did not have a pulse and was technically dead. A ventilator was fitted and, thinking that the stab wound may have perforated the heart, she cut two holes in his chest to relieve the pressure on his lungs.

Mr Niland was anaesthetised and Dr Clark performed a thoracotomy with stunned drinkers and emergency workers standing around. She cut across Mr Niland's chest from

one side while a colleague, Dr Alistair Mulcahy, started from the other.

Once Dr Clark had cut through the breastbone, she lifted up the ribcage, known as the clam shell procedure, and exposed the heart. With time running out, she

knew that she had to cut the pericardium, the sack surrounding the heart. It had filled with blood and was putting pressure on the heart, stopping it from beating.

As the blood spurted out, the heart started beating again and Dr Mulcahy stuck his really notice them.

When we arrived, the parient was on the floor and looked pretty sick and was not moving. We controlled the breathing and started to ventilate him. He did not have a pulse and I began cutting and got about half way and realised it was going to be tough work and I was not going to do it in time on Allande and I was not going to do it in time, so Alistair started on

Before joining the helicopter team for six months, Dr Clark had worked in A&E for ten years, but had never had to do anything like that operation before. She is also a trained ballet dancer who has appeared on a television advertisement and also won the 1998 UK Modern Jive Championship. She trained at the Westbury School of Dancing in Bristol,

and dances professionally.
Since the life-saving surgery
two weeks ago. Mr Niland has
been returned home after receiving 70 stitches. He was visited last week by Dr Clark. who said: "I could not stop staring at him. It is lovely to be able to save someone's life."



Dr Heather Clark with her patient, Stephen Niland, who is now back at home

How 'dead' man was revived

HEATHER CLARK, the Royal London Hospital registrar with their helicopter emergency service, is a remarkably resourceful surgeon. She is also brave to undertake a thoracotomy on a pub floor in order to relieve cardiac tamponade, the compression of the heart caused by bleeding into the pericardial sac, in which the heart lies.

After a stabbing, as the sac fills with blood, the move ment of the heart is restricted

MEDICAL BRIEFING

shock, reduction in the heart's pumping facility and the fall in blood pressure increase, so does the patient become increasingly close to

In Stephen Niland's case, his heart had already stopped beating. After Dr Clark had opened up his chest and evacuated the clotting blood from the pericardial sac, his heart was able to beat again and the circulation was restored

Dr Clark's colleague, Dr Alistair Mulcahy, put his finger into the bole in the heart muscle made by the stab wound and staunched the flow of blood, and patient and doctors were transported to the Royal London where the cardiac wound could be stitched and the chest closed.

Cardio-thoracie surgery is a highly technical subject.

Usually in attendance in the operating theatre with the thoracic surgical team are skilled anaesthetists, a cardi-ologist and a well drilled and knowledgeable team of theatre nurses and technicians.

finger in the hole that was

more than an inch deep and

stayed that way for an hour all

the way to the hospital and

then while surgeons repaired

the damage.

After returning from another life-saving helicopter journey yesterday Dr Clark, said:
"I knew it was the only way

this patient was going to sur-

vive. I remember half way

through looking up at the people gathered there and thinking 'Oh my God'. There

was blood all over the floor

and I could hear people dis-

Mr Niland undoubtedly owes his life, and the preservation of his intellect, not only to Dr Clark's and Dr Mulcahy's quick thinking, but also to their professional boldness and skill.

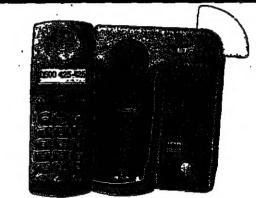
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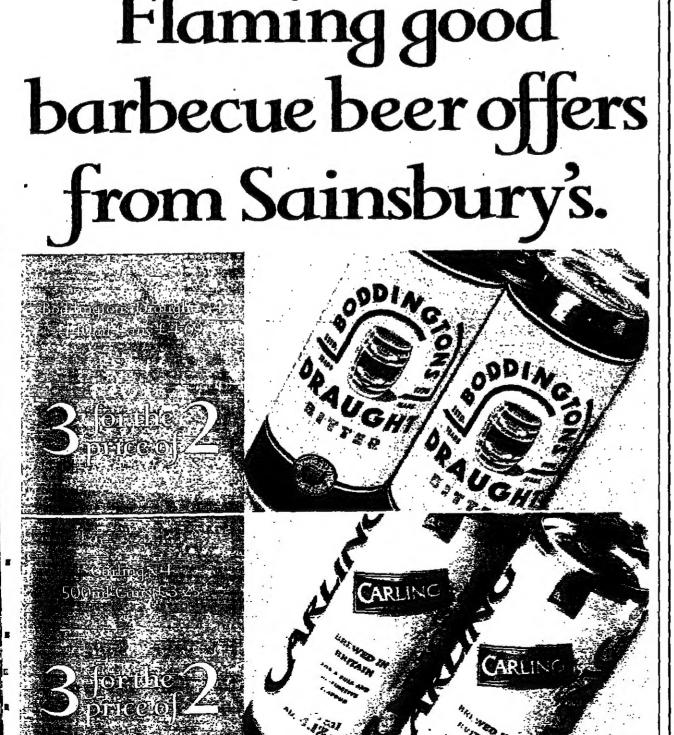




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Harrods is delighte
a tragrance created specilts creator, Jean-Pau
on Tuesday 4th May fre
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THE complexion of weather maps will change from tomor-row, when they will carry an ultraviolet radiation forecast to show how dangerous the

sun's rays will be for different skin types. The Solar UV Index rating. which will appear on television and newspaper maps, is a new weapon in the fight against skin cancer. The incidence of skin cancer in Britain has doubled to 40,000 a year since the early 1980s, and it

LINKS

www.mat-office.gov.uk/ecg/uv/ mindex intell Clear-sky and cloud-modified UV forecasts for Britain and

now kills 2.000 people annually. Such cancers are largely caused by overexposure to UV radiation and is preventable if people protect themselves from it.

The new index rating, which was developed by the World Health Organisation, rates the strength of UV radiation on a scale of one to 20. Using the forecast figure, people can work out their personal risk and take appropriate meas-ures to protect themselves.

UV figures will be given for four skin colour categories: white skin that burns easily and tends not to tan; white skin that tans easily; brown skin; and black skin. Anyone unsure of their correct catego-

paler one. The UV rating depends on several factors, in-cluding the time of year, the time of day, the latitude, the thickness of the ozone layer, the amount of cloud cover, pollution levels and the degree of

reflected light.
Although the top of the index is 20, the rating is unlikely ever to exceed eight in Britain or ren around the Mediterranean. Once the index goes above ten, even those with the darkest skin are at high risk. Levels of 18 are rare, found mainly near the Equator in pollutionfree areas such as northern

The forecasts for Britain will be compiled by six monitoring stations located at intervals of two degrees of latitude, from Camborne, Cornwall, to Lerwick in the Shetland Islands, with the help of the National Radiological Protection Board. The regional forecasts will be accurate to within 40 miles.

The effects of cloud cover will be a difficult but important factor to predict. High cloud has negligible effect and white, fluffy clouds can actually increase radiation levels by reflecting sunlight. Fifty per cent cloud cover can reduce UV radiation to about 70 per cent, while thick clouds covering the entire sky still allow 30 per cent through.

An index figure of one or two means that there is no risk of harm from the sun. Once it reaches three, those with skin that burns easily are at medi-



Mia Ekelund, top, and Carina Persson enjoy the London sun yesterday. The UV index will determine people's level of risk by their skin type think she looks more attractive

um risk, meaning they should avoid being in direct sunlight for more than two hours. At a figure of five, those with

the most sensitive skins are at high risk, which means that they can burn in 30 minutes to an hour and should try to keep

out of direct sunlight and use a sunscreen of at least factor 15. At this level those who tan easiare at medium risk and should take precautions.

A figure of six means that the fairest skin group are at very high risk and can burn se-

verely within 20 minutes. They should avoid all direct sunlight and put on factor-15 sunscreen. Tessa Jowell, the Public

Health Minister, said that the index was an important tool in the drive to cut the number of

preventable cancer deaths. Part of the job of saving those lives is increasing the understanding of the risks involved in exposure to the sun, especially to children and young girls," she said.

"What 17-year-old doesn't

Lancet today.

The calf was cloned from

with a tan than without? Our

aim is that this index becomes

The index will be broadcast

daily, published in newspa-

pers and available on the

part of our everyday lives."

Within a month the calf's lymphocytes — white cells involved in the body's imnune system — and its red blood cells began to decrease dramatically in number. Iron suppler made no difference and, 51 days after its birth, the calf died of severe anaemia.

Contraceptive implant

insert it.

More than 50,000 women in the UK received the implant, hailed as the near-perfect contraceptive when launched here in 1993. But the distributor. Hoechst Marion Roussel, said yesterday that declining de-

tion Group, complaining of problems including constant menstruation, hair loss and

duce the risk of women having hip fractures in later life by 25 per cent, according to research carried out in Sweden. A Pill with a high level of oestrogen cuts the risk by up to 44 per cent. The researchers say in The Lancet that the oestrogen in the Pill makes bones stronger and denser.

legal aid was withdrawn.

declined because of a dispute between the Government and the British Medical Association over how much GPs should be paid to insert the matchstick-size hormone rods under the skin of the arm. The Government refused demands

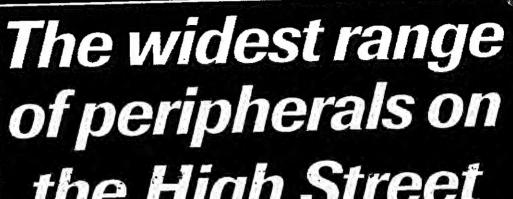
for an extra payment, and the BMA advised GPs not to give

Hoechst Marion Roussel plant remains unchanged."

Planning Association said: "It has always been the view of the association that Norplant is safe and effective and that it

Norplant will be withdrawn in October, but it will be availa-

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'points to cloning dangers'

BY OUR MEDICAL

THE early death of a cloned calf with heart and blood defects stands as warning of possible risks in human cloning, says a

rior

rad

out

rith

biologist.

The calf was cloned from the cells of a cow that was itself a clone. The French biologist and his fellow researchers suspect that the cloning process interfered with genetic reprogram-ming and prevented normal development.

This suggests that defective gene regulation can be transmitted to offspring "and should be taken into account in debates on the effective application of cloning to human beings", Jean-Paul Renard writes in The

a cell taken from the cow's ear. Immediately after birth an echocardiograph showed the calf's heart had an enlarged right ventricle that required treatment with blood-pressure drugs and diuretics.

GUARANTEES

CAN'T BE BEATEN †

withdrawn from market

BY IAN MURRAY

A CONTRACEPTIVE implant that prevents pregnancy for five years is to be withdrawn because women have lost confidence in it and GPs refuse to

The decision dismayed the Family Planning Association, which said that Norplant was a valuable addition to the range of contraceptives.

mand had made Norplant

commercially unviable. The company blamed the de-cision on the publicity generated by legal action by women who claimed they had suffered serious side effects. More than 400 joined the Norplant AcPILL'S BENEFIT

Taking the Pill can re-

mood swings. A test case on behalf of nearly 300 women was abandoned in February when

the implant to new patients

said: 'The combined effect has been to reduce demand for Norplant to levels that are no longer commercially viable. This was a commercial decision and confidence in the safety and effectiveness of Nor-Tom Belfield of the Family

is a vital addition to the choice of contraceptives available."

Paul Balen, the solicitor who co-ordinated the litigation, said Norplant was an effective contraceptive but some users had suffered genuine problems because of it.

ble for five years to women who already have the implant and wish to have it renewed. Other implants are available.

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Subsidy cut drives up private school elitism

Fewer pupils leave state sector as assisted places end and university fees rise, writes John O'Leary

the first government-funded assisted places disappeared, head teachers said yesterday.

The annual census of 1,300 independent schools showed that 31 per cent of new entrants came from state schools, compared with 34 per cent in 1997. Leaders of the main independent education associations said they were worried that their schools would become more socially exclusive as the scheme was

Middle-income parents are already struggling to pay fee rises averaging twice the rate of inflation. A steady flow of teenagers from the state sector into independent school sixth-forms has dried up as parents save for university fees.

The census, carried out by the Independent Schools Information Service (Isis) in January, showed pupil numbers up by 0.7 per cent, the smallest rise for three years. The in-crease was confined to younger pupils, while secondary school numbers dropped.

Boarding continued its longterm decline, with 4.3 per cent fewer pupils. But the 1.7 per cent increase in day pupils included aimost 14,000 who took advantage of "flexi-boarding" to spend eight or more nights dire financial consequences

INDEPENDENT schools at school during the year. A have become more elitist since separate survey of schools in the Assisted Places Scheme, which is being phased out, showed the number of government-sponsored pupils dropping by 7.787. But new scholarship funds and the recruitment of those paying full fees meant that the schools' total numbers dropped by fewer

David Woodhead, the national director of Isis, said three conclusions could be drawn, "One is that the schools are proving very resilient in the face of this major change. The second is that the schools are themselves provid-ing help to many more pupils. "The third, however, is

more disturbing. There is al-ready a measurable shift in the intake to schools with remaining assisted places, away from pupils entering from state schools." Mr Woodhead added: "Over time, this may well result in an unwelcome change in the overall social and economic background of

pupils in those schools." When Labour confirmed a decision to phase out assisted places as one of its first acts in schools said they were likely to become more socially exclusive. Campaigners warned of

ANNUAL FEE INCREASES AT INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS

for some schools. However, head teachers said yesterday that most schools were adapting to the change and parents had shown themselves prepared to subsidise more places to maintain a social mix.

James Sabben-Clare, the Head Master of Winchester College and chairman of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference, said: "In some schools it has been made clear to parents that, because of the loss of assisted places, those who are able to do so will be asked to contribute a little more."

The proportion of pupils re-ceiving help from their schools rose by 7.5 per cent, counterbalancing the loss of state subsidy, and stands at a record 20

The census, which covers 80 per cent of independent school pupils, showed fees rising by

liamson, who chairs the Independent Schools Bursars' Association, said the scale of the increase was mainly because of a 5 per cent increase in staff costs, although the schools had also spent a record £315 million on buildings and equipment.

Mr Williamson said fees were likely to rise by a similar amount this year. "No head or bursar rejoices in fee rises twice the rate of inflation, but this is the wrong benchmark. We are very sensitive to the marketplace in which we operate and very sensitive to the is-sue of our affordability in the One blow was a 2.7 per cent

decline in sixth-form enrolments, reflecting a small drop in overseas recruits and the knock-on effects of lower numbers of entrants to senior schools earlier in the decade. Rosanne Musgrave, the Headmistress of Blackheath High School, South London,

and president of the Girls' Schools Association, said the introduction of university tuition fees had also had an effect. "For some parents, prudent planning means remaining in the state sector rather than paying fees for two years

before university."

Overall pupil numbers increased for the fourth successive year, by 3,400 to 481,321. The strongest growth contin-ued in the youngest age

Education, page 49





Token handlers booked up for last-minute rush

Books For Schools Fulfil-

ment, said: The incredible

success of the scheme has tak-

en us all by surprise.
"I don't think anyone pre-

dicted how amazingly popular it would be. It has com-

TODAY sees the last appearance of The Times Free Books For Schools tokens, but behind the scenes the work will go on for several france weeks (Hannah Bens

At the tokens handling house, MRM, in Leicester-shire, more than a million tokens arrive daily to be ex-

changed for free new books. Workers expect a fresh del-uge from schools when tokens stop appearing in The

pletely taken over the coun-Some days Ms Seeney can get away with assigning ten

workers to the project, but numbers can run as high as 40 — a quarter of MRM's Times, other News Internaworkforce. tional papers and on packs of Walkers snackfoods. Marion

Their hard work has more than been made up for by the

heme. Not only does MRM have the satisfaction of bringing more books into classrooms, it has also been flooded with thank you letters and across Britain.

Tokens can be redeemed until July 20, but Ms Seeney and her colleagues are encouraging schools to send them in well in advance.

For inquiries, call the Free Books For Schools helpline on 0845 6040312.

Final token, page 30

UCAS accused over student numbers 'spin'

THE head of the university admissions service was yesterday accused of "spin-doctoring" for the Government by

more buoyant than they are. Phil Willis, Liberal Democrat spokesman for higher education, has written to Tony Higgins complaining that his organisation is helping the Government to smooth the introduction of tuition fees. Many educationalists, including Dr Higgins, predicted that fees would produce a reduction in university applications.

Recent press releases from the University and Colleges Admissions Service have boasted an increase, in spite of largely significant slump in key areas. such as applications from mature students and for universities in the North West,

By HANNAH BETTS

Mr Willis said: "UCAS was set up to provide an independent service to universities and to students. Its role is to provide that service, not put politi-

pressurised by Labour to proly information.

eral Democrats for a "disgraceful slur". Dr Higgins said: "UCAS is not a government department or agency, it is an independent company and registered charity run by a board elected by the universities and colleges themselves. We do not peddle a pro-Government line, nor are we asked to, and we have never shied away

cal spin on the information it provides." The Liberal Democrats believe UCAS is being from telling it like it is." Cricketers caught out

by thief's googly

BY A CORRESPONDENT

FOUR cricketers were tricked by a thief who stole their wallets into telling him their bank card identification

Kent captain Matthew Fleming, opening batsman Rob Key, wicketkeeper Steve Marsh and coach John Wright were playing touch rugby when rain disrupted play in their game against Hampshire at Southampton. While they were outside, the thief got into the Kent changing room and made off with their wallets.

Some time later, while the team were waiting to bat, he leiephoned the players, claiming to be a police officer who had caught the culprit. He then asked each of them to tell him their identification numbers to prove they were the owners of the cards. All four did so, allowing the thief to steal about £200 from each of them.

A police source said: "It's a very common scam. Normaly people don't fall for it." Fleming, who has played for England, said: They stung each of us once, but fortunate ly it wasn't too great a loss." Tony Baker, Hampshire's chief executive, said the players were going in and out of the changing room and failed to take advantage of security arrangements. We advise that no valuables be left in the changing rooms. I became aware what had happened when the four went in to the club office to use the phone about the thefts. They realised they had been rather foolish."







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the men are looking for vited b enish girifriends who may to find medat become their wives. Brandi bis Silverman, 24, from Jennik Chicago is reading for a denorate in clinical molecugenetic and Dorian in an Israeli, is ading law. Jay Sindair. A of London. Tuns his own

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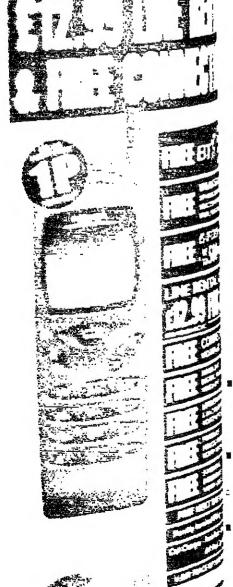
Roseanne c By RUTH GLEDIN

njare, b

Whil

MG Oxiord students and bin British business tan are to take part in a daught tesish matchmaking everthe on American television his three daughters of best-sel he that show host Rosepoor is

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A new agreement should lead to

more information but less intrusion, says Raymond Snoddy

ace nave reached "a new understanding" over coverage of Prince William and Prince Harry, which should mean more access to the Princes in return for greater restraint from editors.

The deal has been brokered by Lord Wakeham, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, in the form of new guidelines on coverage of the Princes. The guidelines have been endorsed by St James's Palace as "a firm basis for avoiding problems that might arise in future" and by national newspaper editors.

Lord Wakeham said yesterday that there was legitimate public interest in news and information about the way the Princes were growing up, and that included the progress of their education. The Palace had always accepted that an insistence on absolute privacy would be unsustainable.

In future, the commission chairman said, access to the Princes at the start of a holiday at Balmoral or the beginning of a ski trip "has got to be part

of the planning". In return, editors had to ensure that the young Princes did not face weekly headlines about them, even if the stories were harmless. When you take a 14-year-old boy -- week in, week out - seeing stories in the tabloids about himself, you cannot argue that is not in-trusion," Lord Wakeham said.

The outcome should be more information coming out, but less newspaper intrusion into their lives through bits of gossip and bits of stories." Although the new guide-lines are aimed specifically at



Wakeham: called for restraint from editors

A HERO of a previous air

emergency was among four

businessmen who died when

when a light aircraft crashed

and burst into flames minutes

Witnesses said the plane dropped like a stone into

fields on the edge of the village

of Hemingborough, near

Three years ago Gerry Dav-

itt was piloting his own plane

with his 11-year-old son, Joe,

when the undercarriage was

damaged. The schoolboy took

the controls while his father ex-

plained crash-landing proce-

dures to passengers. Mr Dav-

itt subsequently made a near-

perfect emergency landing

and Joe was presented with a

Yesterday Mr Davitt was a

after take-off yesterday.

Selby, in Yorkshire.

Prince William and Prince Harry, Lord Wakeham be-lieves they are a good basis for press coverage of children of people such as Tony Blair.

As part of the new under-standing with the Palace, com-plaints against The Mirror and Daily Star over coverage of Prince Harry injuring himself in a rugby game would not

In a letter to Lord Wakeham, Stephen Lambert, private secretary to the Prince of Wales, wrote: "While noting that the PCC has not ruled on whether these articles were, or were not, a breach of the [commission's code, it seems to me that this is a very sensible outcome to those complaints, and a firm basis for avoiding problems that might arise in future."

Lord Wakeham acknowledged yesterday that it would be difficult to decide when an accumulation of stories about the two boys had gone too far. but editors would simply have

to use their judgment.
'The code and effective selfregulation have achieved a great deal to date in guarantee-ing the Princes a degree of pri-vacy." Lord Wakeham said. But it was time to reassess the situation after the tightening of the code on the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

The biggest rows recently between the Palace and the tabloids have involved The Mirror. Last November, under the headline "Harry's Had an Accident". The Mirror reported that the Prince had hurt himself but that the paper was not allowed to tell its readers any details. The paper also printed a warning letter from the Prince of Wales's deputy private secretary, Collect Harris, with all the relevant details blacked out. It soon emerged that the Prince had hurt shoul-

In October the Mirror published a story about Prince Harry having to have most of his hair shaved off under the headline: "He wanted to look like Michael Owen - Prince Harry forced to have his hair cropped as prank backfires".

resterday Lord Wakeham said that he thought stories last year about the Princes abseiling without helmets and safety lines were in the public interest.

Four die as plane falls

to earth 'like a stone'

BY PAUL WILKINSON

passenger on the flight from

Sherburn in Elmet, nine miles

from the crash scene, with his

father. Laurence, and two friends. They were on their way to a pilots' conference in

Last night Mr Davitt's wid-

ow, Chris, who has a daugh-

ter, Philippa, and another son.

Lee, was too upset to talk

about the tragedy at their

The pilot was named as Paul Blackburn, from Spof-

forth, near Wetherby. The other passenger was Kenneth

restart briefly before it ap-

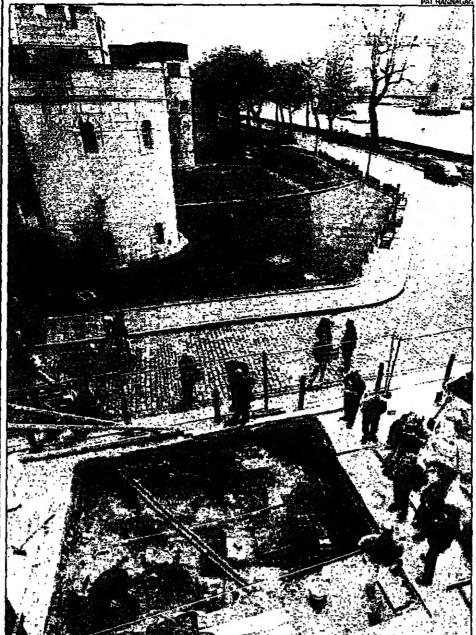
peared through low cloud. The plane plunged almost vertical-ly into a comfield close to the

One witness reported hearing the engine cut out and then

Moore, from Harrogate.

home in Naburn, near York.

The Netherlands.



Uncovering of the enclosure at the Tower, where dogs were used as bait for lions

When lions roared at Tower of London

ARCHAEOLOGISTS at the ower of London have uncovered the foundations of an ancient menagerie that far predates the Regent's Park Zoo. We have been gazing at exotic beasts for longer than we think.

A dig near the present-day entrance to the Tower has exposed the base of the Lion Tower, built in the 13th century as a grand entrance to the principal fortress of the king-dom, but employed from its earliest days as a house of amusement. Like Elizabeth Il opening up the State Apartment of Buckingham Palace, Henry III was not averse to pulling in the crowds, particularly when he could take a groat off

The royal menagerie began at the Tower in 1235 with the gift of three leopards from the Emperor of France. Then the King of Norway presented Henry with a polar bear, complete with collar and lead, which was regularly taken for a swim in the Thames.

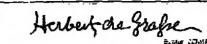
As a tourist attraction, the menagerie really took off in Elizabethan times, when wolves and porcupines were added to the collection. James I. fresh down from Edinburgh in 1603 as first

monarch of Great Britain, enjoyed baiting the lions with dogs. Usually, but not always, the lions won.

Abmit ihr Bearer and Friends

TNNUAL CEREMONY PARRIES THE LIGHE,

ON MONDAY, APRIL THE 16, 1856.



. sequested that no Grandises will be given to the Warrie on ... " as

An April Fool ticket to see the "washing of the lions"

rary account: "You shall understand the two last dogs, whilest the lion held them both under his pawes, did bite the lion by the belly, whereat the lion roared so extreamely that the earth shook withall, and the next lion rampt and roared as if he would have made res-

Fascination with strange creatures remained undiminished for another century. Ned Ward, author of The London Spy, noted in 1699 after a visit to the Lion Tower, which by then exhibited a number of stuffed beasts: The next ill-favoured creatures that were presented to our sight were a couple of looking heli-cats. called a tiger and a catamountain, whose fierce penetrating eyes pierced through my belly to the sad gripping of my guts as it, basilisk-like.

But Ned had the live animals still to come. "In another apartment or ward, for the convenience of drawing a penny more out of the pock et of a spectator, are placed these following animals: first a leopard, who is grown as cunning as a cross Bed-lamite that loves not to be looked at. For as the madman will be apt to salute you with a bowl of chamber-lie. so will the leopard, if you come near him, stare in your face and piss upon you, his urine being as hot as aqua

they could have killed at a

distance with the very looks.

a polecat's." Things are better now. Most animals, bar a token lion or two, were moved in 1830 to stock the zoos of Regent's Park and Dublin. Today the only risk is of aerial

fortis, and stinks worse than

BY ROBIN YOUNG

THE best British film of all

The survey of 2,000 readers suggests that cinema fans have short memories. All but one of the top six was made in the past five years. The only film of advanced age that made the top six was The Italian Job at number four. It was one of three Michael Caine

The Full Monty third. Shallow Grave came in at number five, followed by Four Wed-dings and a Funeral, Get Carter and Monty Python's

Another poll, by UCI Cineahead of The Silence of the Lambs. JFK, Reservoir Dogs. Speed, and Leon.

Fans reject old films

time is Trainsporting, according to a poll conducted by the magazine Total Film.

films in the top 20.

Lock, Stock and Two Smok-Life of Brian

mas and Empire magazine, declared Schindler's List the best film of the past ten years,

main railway line between Selby and Hull.

A fireman said: "The plane is not spread about the field, it

must have been diving very

steeply because it's still in one

chunk. There is a deep mark in the field where it hit and

some debris scattered around

the wreckage, but that's all."

The villager who raised the alarm, Bob Dennis, said: "I

was feeding my dogs when I heard an aircraft engine cut

out, start again and then stop.

The plane then came straight

down out of the clouds, spin-

"It seemed the pilot was try-ing to level out. I thought he

was going to pull the plane

back up, but then I lost view of

it behind the trees and heard a

in survey

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Roseanne offers daughters

TWO Oxford students and a young British businessman are to take part in a Jewish matchmaking exercise on American television with the three daughters of the chat show host Rose-

Jewish girlfriends who may one day become their wives. Scott Silverman, 24, from Chicago, is reading for a doctorate in clinical molecular genetics and Dorian Barag, 27. an Israeli, is reading law. Jay Sindair. 24. of London, runs his own catering business. They were matched with Barr's daughters by Rabbi Shmuley Boteach, author of the best-seller Kosher Sex.

While promoting the book in America, he was invited by Barr on her show to find three Jewish men for Brandi. 27, Jessica, 24, and Jennifer, 23. Rabbi Boteach argues for a return of the traditional Jewish match-

maker. None of the men knows dating. The dates will be televised and the men invitto popular belief, the Jewish community has never had

student organisation. He said: "Without matchmakers, only people with overt virtue, like beauty, wealth and charisma, get noticed."

anne Barr. The men are looking for

> which daughter he will be ed on to the show to discuss their experiences. Contrary

arranged marriages, a prac-tice outlawed by the Bible. but arranged introductions are not uncommon. Rabbi Boteach found the men through his L'Chaim

Mr Silverman said: "It is possible for a third party to evaluate the qualities of potential partners and see whether they will make a good match.

Only 60p

Flabby prison guards ordered to exercise yard

HOME AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

FITNESS tests are being planned for prison officers after the National Audit Office found that a "sickness culture" is costing the service up to £62 million a year.

Twenty-three thousand officers would undergo annual checks on their speed, strength and endurance. An average of 16.7 days a year per officer is being lost through sick leave. The Prison Service is plan-

ning the rigorous tests after voluntary health screening found that staff were overweight and did not take enough exercise, according to the audit office report pub-lished today. Half of the 13,000 volunteers were told to take more exercise and almost three fifths were given advice on improving their diet.

A Prison Service spokesman confirmed that it was considering introducing the fitness tests later this year. Staff who failed the tests would be given the chance to improve their fitness and retake the examination, but the report does not say whether they would be forced to leave their jobs if they did not meet fitness standards.

The report found that levels of absence varied between difTHE SICK LIST

THE audit office report lists the worst prisons for staff sickness as Swansea. Shrewsbury, Dorchester and

Risley. Four women's jails are among the worst: East Sutton Park averages 26.2 days absence per prison officer a year, Bultwood Hall 25.5, Cookham Wood 23.7 and Styal 22.8. About 21 per cent of sick leave taken by prison officers in 1997-98 was because of

depression; 20 per cent was because of injuries caused in accidents or assaults in jails; 17 per cent was because of back, neck and other joint pains; 11 per cent was because of colds and flu; 4 per cent was because of heart disease and blood disorders; and 27 per cent was because of

tween female and male staff. Women prison officers averaged 18 days a year compared with 13 days for men. At East Sutton Park jail, near Maidstone, the figure for 1997-98

David Roddan, general secretary of the Prison Governors' Association, said: "The results of this report are extremely embarrassing. Three

found and the Prison Service did nothing. We really must get our house in order and stop wasting the taxpayers' money.

A Prison Service source said prisons were riddled with a "sickness culture" and that staff and management were both to blame.

The audit office report found that the record of privately run jails in dealing with sick leave was much better, with staff at Blakenhurst, near Redditch, taking 6.3 days sick leave a year and at Doncaster 4.4 days a year. It found that one fifth of all sick leave was because of stress and anxiety and that two fifths of staff surveyed in three jails said their stress was linked to the style of management.

The audit office report estimated that the salary cost and related costs of sickness absence were between £56 million to £62 million a year, the cost of two new 600-cell prisons. About 1.180 prison officers are not available for duty because they are sick on any one

The audit office is also highly critical of the rate of retirement from the Prison Service on medical grounds and suggests that attractive benefits could be encouraging longterm sick leave leading to ear-



Fully recovered and ready for duty: Jasper, left, and Reisilin with RSPCA Superintendent Tom Austin

Starving pair get new lease of life

BY HELEN JOHNSTONE

A HORSE rescued from starvation by the RSPCA could soon be performing official duties for the Queen. Jasper, a three-yearold thoroughbred-shire cross, was found starving, emaciated and ridden with worms and lice at stables in Hyssington. Powys, in October last year.

Mervyn Jones, 69. a groom and transporter for the British Olympic eventing team in the 1948 games, was jailed for five months and banned from owning horses

SHOWROOMS

ing unnecessary suffering to animals. Jasper, named because of his passion for carross, is now likely to join the Household Cavairy after being handed over to the Army vesterday. It is believed to be the first time the Household Cavalry has taken on a horse rescued by the RSPCA. He will be trained and assessed by the Defence Animal Centre in Melton Mowbray. Leicestershire, before serving with the

King's Troop. Sergeant Major Hutton Kohler said:

for life after admitting 13 charges of caus- "He will be a ceremonial charger soon enough and then will be serving on parade at the Queen's birthday and other state events. The Army as a whole takes on 40 horses a year and we always look for a horse that is big, bold and handsome with lots of character, which is something Jasper definitely has."

Jasper's stablemate. Reisilin, who was found in similar conditions, is to join the Wimbledon and Putney Common Conservators, in southwest London, on law and

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PC forced to resign over racist insults

BY PAUL WILKINSON

and Cleveland East, said: "It is

good news that action has

been taken. I am glad to see

the police are taking racism se-riously. This serves as a warn-ing to others.

ordeal for the officer and the

quicker it is settled the quicker

Last month it emerged that

PC Brian Docherty, the chair-

man of the Cleveland branch

of the Police Federation, was

disciplined three years ago for calling a teenager a "black

At the time of the publica-

tion of the Lawrence report.

Barry Shaw, Cleveland's Chief

Constable, warned his officers

that those guilty of racism faced dismissal. The force

equal opportunities policy

identifies both the legal and

moral responsibility of all staff

to challenge any kind of racial harassment," he said. "Racist

or sexist language or behav-

iour is offensive to colleagues

and members of the public

One per cent of officers in

the Cleveland force are from

ethnic minorities, compared

with 1.7 per cent of the local community and some 4 per cent of people in Middles-

and will not be tolerated."

bastard".

he can get on with his job."

It must have been a terrible

A POLICE officer has been forced to resign after making a series of racist remarks to a black colleague.

PC Richard Chapman, 48, was suspended late last year by Cleveland Police after the fellow officer at the Hartlepool police station complained. Mr Chapman subsequently appeared before an internal disciplinary hearing, at which he was found guilty of misconduct and forced to quit.

His victim, Michael Mc-Ardle, who still serves with the Cleveland force, is now bringing a racial harassment claim against his employers. He claimed that Chapman repeatedly called him a "nigger" for 12 months until he made an official complaint.

The disciplinary hearing was conducted last Wednesday by Crispian Strachan, the Chief Constable of Northum-

Mr McArdle, who has been a policeman for 12 years, mostly in Hertfordshire, is currently carrying out light duties after suffering from stress. He has lodged a complaint with the employment tribunal in Newcastle. No date for a hearing has yet to be fixed. Ashok Kumar, the Labour

MP for Middlesbrough South

Cleaner stole a tidy sum

By A CORRESPONDENT

A CLEANER made off with £22,776.78 after finding the safe open at a building society where he was working. Gordon Scott stuffed

bundles of cash into the panniers of his bicycle before pedalling off into the night, magistrates in Swindon were told. The theft was noticed the next morning when staff arrived to find that the safe was still the cleaning had not been done.

Scott, who admitted theft, was working at the Portman Building Society in Gorse Hill, Swindon, when he spotted the mon-ey, magistrates were told.

Rob Welling, for the prosecution, said that police tried to trace Scott. who was the obvious suspect, but he had left home. He stayed in bed and breakfast accommodation in London and Oxford before surrendering ten days later.

"He attended the police station and said, 'I have handed myself in," Mr Welling said. He had with him a blue shoulder bag containing £19,680.

Scott had been earning £25 a week as a cleaner. He is to be sentenced at Crown Court.

Macari's son found hanged

By A CORRESPONDENT

THE son of Lou Macari, the former football player and manager, was found hanging from a tree yesterday.

Police said Jonathan Macari, 19, was discovered by two people on their way to work in Trentham, Staffordshire, in the early morning. A spokesman said that the death was not being treated as

The teenager, who was single, lived at the family home in Trentham. He joined Nottingham Forest as a schoolboy in July 1996, along with 23 other young hopefuls, on the club's youth training scheme. But last summer the club said it had to cut the number to 16 and he was one of those who left.

Paul Hart, director of Forest's academy, said in a statement: "Everyone at the club is very sorry to hear this terrible news and our sympathies naturally go out to his family. Everyone who knew him is devastated to hear the news."

Another source at the club said: "A lot of the other boys who left us have gone on to play for other football clubs, so I would not like to think his death had any connection with

Notice to Halifax borrowers.

The variable base rate for Halifax plc mortgage accounts (but not secured personal loan accounts or Birmingham Midshires accounts) will be decreased by 0.10% p.a. to 6.85% p.a.

The new interest rate will take effect from 1st May 1999 for existing borrowers.

The monthly payment will be amended from the next review date for mortgage accounts on Annual Review and from April 2000 for mortgage accounts on Budget Plan.

Vinnie t lands

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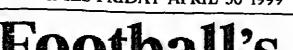


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Notice to Halifax Honowers

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Football's gravy train about to hit buffers

Only stars can hope to see their pay keep soaring, writes Jason Nissé

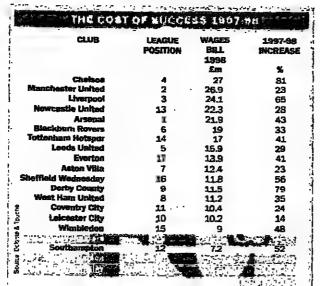
PREMIER League footballers enjoyed an average 36 per cent pay increase last season, pick-ing up in all £296 million, or

£253,000 a player.
Deloitte & Touche, the accountants who compiled the report on the game, say, how-ever, that for many players the gravy train may be about to hit the buffers.

Deloitte found that some clubs, such as Chelsea, Liverpool and Derby County, saw their wage bills rise by more than half during the season. At Chelsea, where Rund Gullit, the manager, was dismissed over his wage demands, the players received nearly £27 million in total. with more than half the squad receiving more than £1 million each for one season.

Salaries have risen by nearly 300 per cent at Premier League clubs since the league was formed in 1992. Top players, such as Alan Shearer, David Beckham or Dennis Bergkamp, were paid more than 12 million by their clubs during the season. And firstyear professionals, who used to be employed on the Govern-Youth Training Scheme, are now receiving

£50,000 a season. But it is the middle of the pay scale, where Deloine sees average first-team footballers picking up between £100,000 and £500,000 a year, that faces the squeeze, with players perhaps having to cut back to one



bottle of Krug a night and sending back that second sports car.

Gerry Boon, head of Deloine's football practice, predicts that star salaries will continue to rise. "There are probably about 50 players in England, and about 200 players in Europe, who can go any-where," Mr Boon said. "These guys will continue to see their wages soar. They are both the chairman's greatest headache

and his greatest attraction." However, he feels that average first-team players are overpressure for those wages to drop, or at least to include a much higher performancerelated element.

This is already happening at, for example, Southampton, where Rupert Lowe, the chairman, has said that he will pay high wages only for good results. Accordingly, most of the relegation-threatened squad

are expecting pay cuts.

Rampant player inflation is the result of what Alan Sugar. the Tonenham Hotspur chairman, calls the "prune juice efpaid and that there will be ey coming into the game from

ticket prices and merchandis-ing flows straight through to

the players' wallets. However, there are signs that the clubs are becoming more adept at holding on to at

least some of the extra cash. During the 1997-98 season, i7 of the 20 clubs in the top flight made operating profits and their aggregate profit topped £100 million for the first time. This is partly because the amount paid in transfer fees is falling, largely because of the Bosman ruling that allows players to change clubs at the end of their contracts for no lee. Net transfer fees paid by the top clubs dropped to $\mathcal{E}77.2$ million in the course of the season.

The real losers from this are lower-division clubs, which are being caught in a financial vice. Ambitious First Division clubs such as lpswich, Birmingham City and Bradford City are having to pay salaries almost equivalent to those in the Premier League to attract the sort of players who can win promotion.

But their income cannot match that of even the smaller Premier League clubs, such as Coventry City or Leicester City. The result, as supporters of Crystal Palace, Portsmouth or Luton Town have seen in recent months, is for clubs to fail financially.

England job, page 60



David Beckham is one of the few whose £2 million-plus salaries will keep on rising

They play for real money in **America**

By JASON NISSE

ANYBODY who thinks lootballers are overpaid might care to consider the wage packet of Gary Shef-field. The American baseball player, a big hitter who recently moved from the Florida Martins to the Los Angeles Dodgers, was last season paid \$14.9 mil-lion (£9.3 million).

Sheffield's bounty - before advertising deals, personal endorsements and computer games based on his hitting — hardly raises an eyebrow in a sport where the players average more than \$1 million (£625,000) each.

Unlike Britain, wages paid to major league baseball players are published at the end of each season. Fans know that Pedro Martinez, the Boston Red Sox pitcher, earned \$11 million (£6.9 million) for throwing a white ball very hard, or that Albert Belle of the Baltimore Orioles received the sum of \$11.9 million (£7.4 million) for hitting it back even harder.

Baseball is not the only sport in which such sums are unremarkable. In basketball, top players such as Shaquille O'Neill are on contracts worth more than \$20 million (£12.5 million). Their workload is so light that they can fit in a

Vinnie the hard man lands Disney role

THE former Wimbledon footballer Vinnie Jones has landed a big Hollywood film role after impressing Disney executives with his performance in the Britishmade Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels.

hard men, will star opposite the Oscar-winning actor Nicolas Cage in Disney's Gone In 60 Seconds, Since leaving Queens Park Rangers last year to concentrate on his film career, he has attracted widespread admiration in Hollywood for his debut role as a gangland enforcer.

Film executives were said to have been amazed by one scene in which Jones, as Big Chris, attacks a thug who had threatened his young son. "Vinnie was absolutely terrifying in that scene," a Disney spokesman said.

Scots reject

call for

a united

team

SAM GALBRAITH, the Scot-



Last night Peter Burrell, deal was signed last week. Vinnie is extremely excited about the whole venture. It's one of the biggest budget movies of the year, and Nicolas Cage is one of the

which has a budget of \$100 million (£62 million), begins in June and Jones will move to Los Angeles for about five mouths with his wife, Tanya. He is rumoured to have secured

Si milion for the role.

The film is being produced by Jerry Bruckheimer, who made Top Gun,
The Rock and Enemy of the State. It follows the fortunes of a gang of car thieves who agree to carry out one final heist before going straight so that the gang leader, Cage, can pay off his younger brother's debt to the mob.

Jones, 33, is to play the leader of a rival gang, a cocky Cockney car thief. He is also in negotiations with Guy Ritchie, director of Lock, Stock, and Two Smoking Barrels, to star in Diamonds, a film about a huge robbery in London.

BY TIM REID

Jones, who became notorious as one of the game's

Vinnie Jones in his British film debut

Jones's agent, said: "The biggest stars around at the moment. It takes Vinnie Into a US and a global audience.

Bank reveals growing debt at Everton

By JASON NISSE

tish Sports Minister, yester-day dismissed his English counterpart's call for a united THE future of Everton Foot-British football team, saying ball Club is in the balance af-Scotland's I-U victory over Ger-many was proof of the team's ter a secret report by the leading merchant bank NM Rothstrength. Craig Brown's men enjoyed schild revealed that the club has spiralling debts, currently standing at £18 million.

their night of glory on the same day that Tony Banks, the Sports Minister, described the Scots as the West Ham of world football.

Within hours, Scotland had delivered the perfect riposte, with Don Hutchison grabbing the winner midway through the second period in Bremen. It was the team's first first win in Germany since 1957. 'To coin a footballing

phrase, I am over the moon," said Mr Galbraith. "It was a great victory, and I am delight-ed for Craig Brown and his team. I love it when Scotland

He insisted that steps were in place to enable Scotland to

become a major global force.

"There are still some good players out there, but we need a steady stream of good players coming through to sustain us at both national and club

"We are already committed to investing £1 million into a new football academy, which we believe will provide the basis for the future.

'Football is an integral part of life in Scotland, and we need to ensure that continues and the people have a team to be proud of.

of a united British team, but I

can't see that happening."

There has always been talk

the weekend it reveals the full extent of the club's financial difficulties, including a current overdraft of about £18 million and projections that Everton will go further into the red during the

son, its former chairman.

bank HSBC, has been in talks

for more than three months

about a deal to buy Mr John-

son's 68 per cent stake. Mr

Johnson originally asked

£70 million for the stake -

which cost him £19 million six years ago - then cut the price to £50 million and then

Sources close to the deal say

that the stake is now worth

The Rothschild report, de-

tails of which have been passed to The Times, was pro-

duced for Mr Johnson as a

way of selling the club and

handed to Mr Kenwright at

to £35 million.

hardly anything.

summer because of outstandng business commitments. Those familiar with the situation say that Everton would need a cash injection of between £20 million and £25 million to put the club back on an even keel and allow the manager, Walter Smith, to rebuild a team that is still not safe from

relegation. Mr Johnson, a Liverpool fan The poor state of affairs at the Premiership club has led who recently moved to Jersey for tax reasons, is under pres-Bill Kenwright, the theatre imsure to sell his stake in Everpresario, to withdraw from a ton from the Football League. £35 million deal to buy a conwhich is unhappy because he trolling stake from Peter Johnalso controls Tranmere Rovers, the first division club Mr Kenwright, an Everton director who is backed by based across the Wirral from Everton in Birkenhead.

He was forced to stand down as chairman of Everton after a row with Mr Smith over the sale of the club's top striker, Duncan Ferguson, to Newcastle United for £7 million. Mr Smith said that he was not told of the sale before it was agreed. It is believed that Everton sold Ferguson in an attempt to keep its overdraft under control.

Mr Kenwright is under-stood still to be keen to do a deal to buy Mr Johnson's stake. However, HSBC, which is financing the deal, will not come up with money to pay off Mr Johnson when it is needed to shore up the dub.

☐ The Northern Irish football side Portadown won a cup final yesterday without a ball being kicked. Cliftonville, their scheduled opponents in the final that was to have been played tomorrow, were disqualified because one of their players forgot that he had played for another team earlier in the competition.





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£500,000 hedge dispute settled after 11 years

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

FIVE law lords made a ruling yesterday on a boundary between two fields that has implications for farmers and landowners across Britain. The decision ended a "hedge and ditch" dispute that dragged on for 11 years and cost more than

Their lordships unanimously allowed a challenge by John insley, of Saverley Green. Staffordshire, and rejected a Court of Appeal ruling that the boundary line of his field ran down the middle of a hedge. as indicated by Ordnance Survey. He had claimed that the line ran along the edge of a ditch on the other side of the

hedge.
The ruling upholds the legality of the "hedges and ditches presumption", which is based on an early 19th-century court ruling stating that "no man making a ditch can cut into his neighbour's soil but usually cuts it to the very extremity of his own land". It followed that, where there was a hedge and a ditch, the boundary line lay

along the edge of the ditch on the far side of the hedge. The Court of Appeal had ruled that the presumption did not apply where land was conveyed by reference to Ordnance Survey maps showing boundaries in the middle of hedges.

The marathon litigation over a strip of land 87ft by 6ft. worth at most a few hundred pounds, is a perfect example of what last week's civil justice reforms aim to stop. It occupied the minds of 11 judges - a recorder sitting in a county court, five Court of Appeal judges (two heard the application for leave and three heard the appeal) and five law lords - ran up huge legal costs, and brought about the loss of Mr Insley's computer business and some £57,000 of his money. It also cost the legal aid fund an estimated £100,000.

The other party in the dispute, Alan Wibberley, a builder, estimated that the case had cost him about £100.000.

Law reports, pages 50 & 51



Anne Wood, founder of Ragdoll Productions, celebrating her award yesterday

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MONEY BACK.

Business award for creator of **Teletubbies**

By ALEXANDRA FREAN

ANNE WOOD, creator of the Teletubbies - one of the first television programmes to be aimed at children aged under two - was named businesswoman of the year yesterday. She started her television production company from home and worked from the front room with her cat

Accepting the award at Claridge's hotel in London. Ms Wood said that she was sacked from her job as head of children's television at TVam because she had different ideas from her bosses about how programmes should be made. "I had an idea for a children's programme and took it to Channel 4 and they said if I wanted to do it I had to set up a company."

The series has stimulated a

national debate on attitudes towards very young children and the way they learn language. It is broadcast in 44 countries and has been translated into 21 languages.

Ministers consider 'GM free' label plan

By NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

that all their ingredients and food additives come from conventionally grown crops would be able to label products as being "GM free" under a scheme being considered by Jeff Rooker, the Agriculture

Under the current system supermarkets and food manufacturers are required to print labels saving that products as "may contain" genetically modified material it traces of modified soya or maize can be

Cadbury

abandons

GM soya

By NICK NUTTALL

THE giant confectionery firm Cadbury announced yes-

terday that it would no longer

use genetically modified in-gredients in its products in re-

The company said that it was now buying soya lecithin, an emulsifier used in choco-

late making, from convention-

Cadbury's announcement follows others by Tesco, Uni-lever and Nesde this week

that they would not use geneti-

ally grown crops in Europe.

sponse to public concern.

Such labels are most commonly seen on frozen meals and vegetarian dishes that contain sova. However, the rules do not cover many additives,

such as lecithin, flours, colourings, flavourings, oils and vitamins, which are derived from crops such as soya.

Ian Tokelove, a spokesman for the London Food Commission, said that such ingredients could "turn up in almost anything".

The problem is the consumer still can't see if something is derived from GM crops or not," he said. "We believe everyone has the right to make their own choice."

Norman Baker, the Liberal Democrats' environment spokesman, told Mr Rooker yesterday that many people were worried that genetically modified crops could damage

the environment.
Mr Rooker told MPs that companies that had sufficent documentation for individual products might be allowed to use labels stating: "No GM Ingredients Used in the Process or No GM Technology Used in the Process of the Product".

However, he said that the Government was proceeding cautiously because it did not want a system that ended up "conning the public".

Michael Meacher, the Environment Minister, also disclosed yesterday that the Government was pressing for reforms of the European Directive covering the licensing of genetically modified crops.

He said that the existing system, under which the European Commission can give a crop the go-shead with the

cally modified ingredients. A spokesman for Cadbury said that the company used veloped by Novartis was given soya lecithin in a small a green light, despite protests number of products. "We use from Britain and other states it in dark chocolate but not milk chocolate," be said.

Girl dies after

breast operation

By HELEN JOHNSTONE

A TEENAGER died after be- after 48 hours, she started com-

Cadbury lines that contain lecithin include Bourneville chocolate, Butterscotch Brittle and Top Deck uses more milk solids than European chocolates.

coming infected during sur-

gery to reduce the size of a

breast, an inquest was told yes-

Abigail Stevenage, 19, had

chosen to have the surgery be-

cause her left breast was three

times bigger than her right. She had first consulted doctors

about breast reducation when

she was 17. Stevenage, a clerk,

had breast tissue removed by

liposuction at Wordsley Hospi-

tal, Brierley Hill, West Mid-

lands, in December last year.

When she was discharged

backing of one member state - even if the other 14 states disagree — was unsatisfactory. In one instance, a herbicidetolerant oilseed rape crop de-

concerned that the crop could spread antibiotic resistance to farm animals and the public. Mr Meacher said that he wanted the rules, which are being discussed in Brussels, to of countries must be in in fayour of such crops.

plaining of pains in her hands

and feet; a week after the oper-

ation she was taken to hospital where she died of toxic shock

syndrome. The inquest was

told that her left breast had be-

come infected, which triggered

Sebastian Pilz, a consultant

plastic surgeon, in evidence to

the inquest at Kidderminster,

said: "Abigail needed this oper-

ation, it was not some minor

blood poisoning.

plastic surgery."

was recorded.

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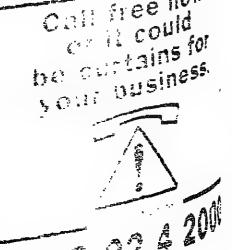
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Proms give film scores starring role

The soundtrack from 'Psycho' will feature in the BBC concerts this year, writes

Adam Sherwin THE slashing violins that ac-companied the shower scene in Psycho will jolt audiences at this year's BBC Proms concerts. Bernard Herrmann's

frightening score to the Alfred

Hitchcock classic will be fea-tured in a special night of film music at the 105th Proms Lord Attenborough will host and choose the most memorable musical moments from 100 years of cinema at the concert on July 31. Two awardwinning composers will make guest appearances to conduct their music: Maurice Jarre, who won an Oscar for his score to Lawrence of Arabia, and George Fenton, who composed the music for Lord Attenborough's Gandhi and Shad-

Carl Davis will conduct the BBC Concert Orchestra in performances of Herrmann's work for Hitchcock, including Psycho and Vertigo. The stirring themes from Star Wars and Close Encounters of the Third Kind, composed by John Williams, will also be

Nicholas Kenyon, the director of the Proms, welcomed the innovation at the launch of the programme yesterday. He said: 'The cinema has been one of the most influential artistic inventions of the century and we want to celebrate that. I can't quite bring myself to do the theme from Titanic but we are hoping to get some James Bond in there."

Mr Kenyon has made a number of changes to the programme which runs from July lo to September 11 at the Royal Albert Hall. There will be pre-Proms talks explaining the works and pre-concert performances of music by contem-



Violinists of the BBC Symphony Orchestra on the balcony of the Royal Albert Hall in Kensington tuning up for this year's Proms season whose theme is The Ascent of Man

porary composers at the Serpentine Gallery in Hyde Park. The last Proms season of the century will reflect on the achievements of humanity. The main theme will be The Ascent of Man, drawn from the late scientist Jacob Bronowski's book of that name. Music by Sir Michael Tippett, Mahler and Schumann will be performed to express the aspirations and struggles of hu-manity. Mr Kenyon said: There is a more serious approach this year. This has been a very dark century and

we need to reflect on that." There will be lighter moments, particularly on the Last

Night. The actor Jeremy Irons will adopt the persona of Noël Coward and sing some of his best-known works, including Mad Dogs and Englishmen. Irons, who last sang on stage over a decade ago, is ex-

pected to attend training sessions at Glyndebourne with Sir Andrew Davis, who will conduct the Last Night. Mr Kenyon said: "People might object to the inclusion of Coward, but he is an integral part of Britain's musical tradition and this is a way to mark the centenary of his birth."

The Last Night is being "de-volved" with simultaneous Proms events taking place in Swansea and Birmingham, where there will be performances followed by a big-screen relay of the chest-beating climax at the Albert Hall. Scotland declined to take part in this celebration of national

BBC Television will broadcast ten concerts live including the Last Night. Tickets for the Proms concerts will be priced

own series of live concerns to rival the Proms. Radio 3's competitor will place the emphasis on bringing live music to the regions, but its choice may not

appeal to all Promenaders. The first event, to be held at Milton Keynes Bowl in June, will feature the violinist Nigel Kennedy performing the works of the Sixties rock guitarist Jimi Hendrix.

A SEASON OF HIGHLIGHTS ☐ A celebration of Irish music on August 12

featuring the pipes of Liam O'Flynn and Anuna.

☐ The Children's BBC Proms in the Park will feature the chart-topping choirgirl Charlotte Church in Hyde Park on September 12. 1,000 Years of Music in a Day. Selections from

each century covering the themes of creation and the planets. Two concerts on 18 July. International stars including Cecitia Bartoli, Sir

Simon Rattle, Zubin Mehta and the Bavarian State Orchestra.

A concert dedicated to Duke Ellington with Clark Terry, a trumpeter in his band. Free informal talks on the evening's music. featuring the American conductor Leonard Slatkin. ☐ The Serpentine Gallery hosts performers from leading music colleges during talks by composers

Music by Beethoven, Mozart and Brahms.

Tribunal told sacked surgeon is a liar

A SURGEON fighting an ur fair dismissal case after h was sacked by a hospital trus was yesterday branded a lia

at the hearing.

David Skidmore, the senio consultant at the Joyce Gree Hospital in Dartford, Ken was said to have deliberatel misled the trust at an interna inquiry into claims that he mis

handled an operation. Dartford and Graveshar NHS Trust's lawyer Andre-Andrews told an industrial tr bunal at Bury St Edmund Suffolk: "Mr Skidmore coul not be trusted to tell the trut and did not have the conf dence of the management." Mr Andrews said there ha also been complaints about Mr Skidmore's surgical com

petence. "There are patient who cannot speak highlenough of him. But equal there are those who feel he ha ruined their lives," he said. Mr Skidmore, 59, from Blackheath, South London was awarded the OBE i 1984after he was credited wit saving the life of Norman Tel bitt's wife in the Brighto bomb blast.

He had been at the hospita for 18 years and conducte 23,000 operations when I was dismissed in 1997 for gross personal misconduct. While operating on a won an patient to remove a ga bladder, he accidentally perfe rated a major artery and sh nearly died. He is alleged I have lied about the units of

blood used to keep her alive.

Prince invites 100,000 to pop party in the park

THE Prince of Wales will party with pop stars and thousands of fans at a concert in Hyde Park which organisers hope will raise more than £500,000 to help unemployed young people.

Encouraged by the success of a similar open-air concert last year that attracted 100.000 people, the Prince's Trust has persuaded The Corrs, Boyzone, UB40, Madand many other acts to per- at Parks Enterprises, the com-

in London's Royal Parks this summer. Residents around the parks have expressed concern about noise and crowds, but Simon Petherick of Roy-

Trust concert website (including tick-

gent's Park Flower Show June 25-28); Cliff Richard, Hyde Park (July 16-18); Royal Orchestra video link, Hyde Park (Sep-tember 11).

mercial arm of the state-run The Party in the Park, on parks agency, said that the July 4, is expected to be the performances were limited in knows well in advance. The programme of Royal Parks events includes: Re-

Kensington Gardens (August 15: Last Night of the Proms

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another region where you'll find authentic Spanish cuisine. Knightsbridge. The Tapas Bar is the latest of 20 restaurants in Harrods. This Bank Holiday Monday it'll be open from 10am to 6pm, serving freshly prepared dishes such as Stuffed Aubergine, Iberico Ham with fresh figs and traditional Paella. The menu also lists a wide range of fine wines to complement your meal. Alternatively you could stroll next door to the Wine Department and select a bottle off the shelf, (a small corkage fee applies). The Tapas Bar is situated below Harrods Bakery on the Lower Ground Floor. So this Bank Holiday, visit Spain in Knightsbridge.

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By VALERIE ELLIOTT

on devolution.

likely to bother to vote.

Alun Michael, Welsh Secre-

tary, around Wales is anoth-

er attempt by the party to en-

Senior party figures calcu-

lated that a low turnout will

affect Labour's chances of

clinching the assembly lead-

ership for Mr Michael with

Plaid Cymru standing the most to gain from apathy

among the supporters of oth-

Even a leading Welsh

bookmaker, Jack Brown, is predicting a close contest for the post of first secretary and

the latest betting is evens for both Mr Michael and Daf-ydd Wigley, the Plaid Cymru

It is still uncertain wheth-

er Mr Michael can clinch his

assembly place on the PR list

in Mid and West Wales. The

latest poll findings suggest that, if just 500 Labour votes

switch to Plaid Cymru, he could lose. Labour is deter-

mined therefore to make the

most of the last days of the

er parties.

president.

courage voters to turn out.

LABOUR strategists are counting on a visit from cent of Welsh people voted in the last general election. Tony Blair to Wales today to pep up the assembly election compaign and encourage the voters to turn out next week.

Senior political figures of all parties are concerned that the low-key campaign has failed to capture the imagination of the Welsh and they are determined to inject some belated excitement.

William Hague is expected in Wales this weekend while the Prime Minister could return next week to try to keep up the momentum to polling day on Thursday.

Fears that a low turnout will damage the authority of the new body have helped to forge a rare alliance between the political parties and all are determined to reach the target 60 per cent turnout.

Below this level, there is nervousness that the new assembly could start off as a lame duck with few people treating it seriously or even taking notice of its work.

The 60 per cent target was set out for the first time in the Welsh Office annual report published earlier this month and the Government has allocated £2 million for a publie information campaign about the assembly.

But with just one week to go before election day it is not certain that the threshold

figure dropped to just 50.3

per cent in the referendum An NOP survey for HTV Wales showed that only 55 per cent of the public were Labour's decision to bus

With only seven days until elections to the first Scottish

They are too big a risk."
His personal intervention

Mr Blair will say today that

Blair offers Scots clear choice

Prime Minister to intervene

as poll suggests Labour lead is slipping, reports Jason Allardyce

THE Prime Minister will today make a personal appeal to Scots to have no truck with the "dangerous" and "divisive" SNP after a poll suggested the nationalists were staging a startling recovery.

parliament in 300 years. Tony Blair will claim in Glasgow that Scots face "a clear and fundamental choice". In a strongly worded speech in Glasgow he will say: "Our opponent's central ambition is divisive: to break Britain apart. Their economic policy is not credible. Their figures don't add up. Their policies are dangerous.

comes after a System Three poll suggested that Labour's 20-point lead over the SNP identified last week has shrunk to 11 points on the first vote. The poil also pointed to a gap of only three points on the second proportional represen-tation vote. This would give Labour 55 seats in the 129-member legislature, compared with the SNPs 48 and would leave the nationalists just two seats short of being able to form a coalition with the Lib Dems with

House of Fraser



Dave Burnet, an SNP member, reads the first edition of the party's new newspaper, created to counter alleged media bias

services.

Labour has changed Scotland and that the party now wants to use the parliament to change Scotland. "We have established the parliament not just to achieve better democracy but also to achieve better schools, better hospitals and better housing." He will claim that the Unit-

ed Kingdom is "better off united and worse off apart, stronger together and weaker apart".

The narrowing gap between the parties just days ahead of the elections has wiped out any complacency in the Labour camp. A party spokes-

woman said: "There is a full week left and we will be fighting for every vote, fighting to deliver our pledges to build Scotland's future. We will also continue to expose the costs and risks of the SNP's plans for an immediate, messy and expensive divorce.

The findings are broadly in line with recent private polling by both parties which has put the difference between them 21 around 10 points in the first vote. The findings suggest that anger directed at Alex Salmond for condemning the Nato action in the former Yu-

goslavia may be dissipating and voters may be warming to the SNP leader's plans to lorgo next year's penny tax cut to invest £690 million in public

The SNP also believes the recovery shows that the dramatic tactical switch last week to take its message directly to the people - the equivalent of John Major's soapbox - may be paying dividends.

Mike Russell, the SNP chief executive, said that the latest poll reflected the party's belief that the past week has gone

dence that shows we were correct. We have felt certain for some time that people were responding to our message. People want a positive message, they want confidence and the best parliament possible."

Launching Labour's Scottish business manifesto yesterday, the Chancellor Gordon Brown said: "We don't talk about opinion polls, as you know." But he promised that Labour would promote positive policies in contrast to the SNP's failure to answer key questions like the financial im-

Lib Dems attack SNP spending 'black hole'

The Scottish Liberal Demo-crats riaimed to have found an £87 million "black hole" in SNP spending plans. Malcolm Bruce, the Lib

Dem treasury spokesman, said the nationalists "Penny for Scotland" pian to raise £690 million had

the cost of collecting the tax. The SNP would either have to raise tax by more than ip in the pound or scale back its manifesto pledges. "SNP figures just don't add up. This is a blunder of monumental proportions. The SNP cannot be taken seriously as a potential party of government whom they cannot even get their basic sums right."

QUOTE of the day

John Swinney, the SNP's deputy leader, uses a Sents phrase to insist that his pary's economic document blished today will conound the critics:

> I think it will put a few people's gas at a peep 7

today's AGENDA

Tony Biair attends the Press Fund launch in Glasgow. Alex Salmond explains the economics of Independence. William Hague, on a flying visit to Edinburgh and Perth, talks about Labour's tax and jobs record. The Lib Dems will focus on NHS bed-blocking.

Two votes in a new world of choices

By PETER RIDDELL

THE battle for control of the first Scottish parliament since 1707 is far from over. The latest System Three poll for The Herald suggests that the SNP cannot vet be written off. But this is not merely because of fluctuating poll ratings.

Next Thursday, people will have two votes. The first will be for their constituency member, while the second will be for regional lists of candidates. This should produce a more proportional overall result. But will both votes be cast for the same party, or will people hedge their bets?

Labour naturally hopes not. Their talk is all of two votes. nor two choices. But there is still much confusion. Germany operates an additional member system similar to that used in Scotland: in Bundestag elections, support for the Christian Democrats and the Social Democrats is often between four and eight percentage points lower on the second than the first vote. Some people switch to the Free Democrats and Greens to ensure that they get over the 5 per cent threshold needed to gain seats since they usually win no constituency members.

Recent polls suggest that. while between 15 and 30 per cent of Scots say they may vote differently on the second ballot, there is no clear pattern. Unlike Germany, there is no outright gainer. Simon Braunholtz of MORI

Scotland, which polls for The Sunday Herald. says that switchers from Labour to SNP between first and second votes are more likely to be men. aged 18 to 34, and students.

A paradox of this system is that having won all, or virtually all, the constituency seats in. say, Glasgow or Central Scotland, Labour cannot win any more under the second/proportional top-up ballot. So it is rational for Labour supporters in these regions to back a different party in the second ballot. Biff voters may not yet realise they have such a choice.

Talk of a big Labour victory could encourage switching to other parties on the second balout. It does not matter very much in a general election if turnout falls in safe seats, as it did in 1997, since Labour still wins, but it does matter when people have a second regional

Predicting the result is fraught with uncertainties. We are in a new world in which voters, as well as politicians. will learn to behave differ-

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IN APRIL THEY FEASTED.

A noble feast was a lavishly staged affair. Archaeological excavations have uncovered some particularly large and beautiful drinking horns, along with ceremonial jewellery and ornamental goblets - but no cutlery. The eating fork was not invented until the seventeenth century, and when you went to a feast you took your own knife.

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Tories pile the blame on Lilley

BY PHILIP WEBSTER AND ROLAND WATSON

HOW TORIES RATE THE LEADERS

THE knives were well and tra-ly out for Peter Lilley yester-day as William Hague briefly escaped the Westminster hothouse for the election campaign trail.

As the Tory leader's difficulues have worsened this week, the anger directed at his deputy from Conservative MPs and fellow members of the Shadow Cabinet has intensified.

And it is genuine fury. They reject any suggestion that Mr Lilley is being cast in the role of scapegoat. "He is the reason we are in this trouble. It is not William's fault," a senior Tory MP said yesterday.

No one is trying to excuse Mr Hague from some responsibility for the fiasco — they be-lieve that he should have reined Mr Lilley back when he was told two days beforehand that Mr Lilley was delivering a speech putting tight limits

Capable leader

Rather

on the role of the private sector in health and education provision, and was allowing political correspondents to be briefed in advance. They believe that Mr Hague should have questioned Mr Lilley more closely beforehand.

However, they are deeply ir-ritated that Mr Lilley should have gone out on a limb without fuller consultation and clearly without understanding the explosive impact his remarks would have on the wider party at such a sensitive time. While many frombenchers sympathise with Mr Lilley's and Mr Hague's attempt to rid the party of an electoral albatross they believe the timing of the move was crass and

blame Mr Lilley for it. They believe that in his efforts to raise his low profile he did the party a disservice and should never have sprung the



speech on Mr Hague and the Shadow Cabinet. Mr Lilley's alleged failure as the party's head of policy is also under at-

Mr Hague has decided to take a much closer role in what will be seen as a downgrading of Mr Lilley's posi-tion. Some ministers close to Mr Hague think he should go the whole hog and ditch the man whose public appearances have not been a great suc-

cess in the past two years.
They believe that Mr Hague could sack Mr Lilley without any fear of a backlash from the party. There are no Lilley supporters on the backbenches," one said.

Sacking Mr Lilley before he due to produce the first fruits of his policy review with a mini-manifesto in the autumn would risk confusing the whole process. Mr Hague might also be nervous that dismissing him might send out the wrong message about his campaign to display Tory support for the public services.

But it is clear that senior members of the Shadow Cabient blame Mr Lilley rather than Mr Hague for the affair.

Michael Howard, the Shadow Foreign Secretary, directed his anger at the former Social Se-curity Secretary when, in a meeting of the Shadow Cabinet a week ago, he took the speech apart paragraph by paragraph. When Mr Howard was asked about the affair

he declined to comment. Speaking to The Times earli-er this week Mr Howard went out of his way to praise Mr Hague. Other senior Shadow Cabinet members are saying that Mr Lilley had been given an important backroom role

in a BBC interview on Sunday

and should have stayed there. There is no criticism of Mr Hague for standing by Mr Lilley when the outcry began. But he is understood to have been unhappy by the original draft of the Lilley speech and the "spin" that he had suggested be put upon it.

Tory MPs say that with a Shadow Cabinet reshufile approaching. Mr Hague has the obvious opportunity to drop Mr Lilley. Mr Howard has already announced that he is going and Mr Hague has an opportunity to make a break

Hague faces voters with a fixed grin

By RUSSELL JENKINS

WILLIAM HAGUE gave every impression of a politipressure yesterday when he visited Liverpool. His smile remained fixed but answers

grew terser.
If he was looking for respite from Westminster, he found limited comfort on Merseyside where he delivered a speech to business-men at a CBI lunch. Everyone from businessmen in the boardroom to people in the street wanted to know the answer to only one question — would be still be Conserva-tive Party leader by the end of summer?

Mr Hague promptly re-plied "absolutely" but under-neath the glued-on smile his brisk business-as-usual attitude could be easily mistaken for something closer to

He headed for the regions haunted by the Times Mori poll showing a further collapse in his personal standing among supporters. The Opposition leader was pursued around the marble lobby of the fortress-like Royal Sun Alliance building by newsmen chutching copies of The Times carrying the poll which concluded that only 10 per cent of voters now regard

him as a capable leader. At one point he suddenly dropped his sang froid insist-ing: "I don't believe what I ing: "I don't believe what read in newspapers and don't read them anyway."

Over lunch he was happy to fend off questions behind ence of northern business leaders about interest rates, tax regulations and job lossin the managing director's office on the tenth floor of the Sun Alliance building.

Sebastian Coe, his head of office, stood to one side.

Asked about Tory grandees calling for his head, he replied: "It is rubbish of an order I do not bother to read.

The suggestion is, said the man from The Express, is that you are fighting for the leadership. "When I want suggestions from the Daily Express I'll ask for them," replied Mr Hague snappishly "I don't believe what I read in newspapers and I don't read them anyway." Mr Hague was showing his face in the regions in the run up to the local government elections. He went electioneering in Lichfield in the morning and later visited Ribblesdale High School, in Clitheroe,

When mid-term blues engulf the Opposition

WILLIAM HAGUE'S problems are far deeper and more serious than the Tories' self-inflicted, and largely unnecessary, row of the past ten days. The latest MORI poll for The Times shows in brutal detail how Mr Hague has failed to make any public impact, is do-ing worse than previous Lead-ers of the Opposition and has lost the confidence of many

Tory supporters.
On each of 14 measures of leadership, the Tory leader is dwarfed by the Prime Minister. Even more worrying is that Mr Hague's poor ratings have failed to improve in any way since his image was first measured in autumn 1997.

Moreover, his ratings com-pare poorly with Neil Kinnock's in October 1985, two of the Opposition (and are worse even than Michael Foot's). While 46 per cent now regard Mr Hague as inexperienced, 32 per cent took the same view of Mr Kinnock then. The contrast is 10 to 27 per cent on being a capable leader, 5 to 26 per cent on having a lot of personality and II to 28 per cent on understanding the problems facing Brit-

Mr Hague's defenders say all this is unfair. Mr Hague is a lively, intelligent and amusing man, a strong performer in the House of Commons, and publicly unflappable, as he showed on the election trail yesterday. But he has so far failed to communicate those characteristics to the public.

His low poll ratings are, of course, part of the wider problem of the Tories' failure to win back public confidence. Even among those dissatis-fied with the way the Govern-ment is running the country, 61 per cent are also dissatisfied with Mr Hague's per-

formance, with 17 per cent satisfied. The only mid-term RIDDELL nies, not Labour's, ON POLITICS whose current poll ratings are pearly 20 points higher than the Major and Thatcher Governments' half-way through

their parliaments. In June 1981, for example, the Labour Opposition had a 39 per cent share of the vote, while the Tory Government June 1985, the contrast was 36 to 35 per cent, and, in June 1989, the contrast was 47 to 37 per cent. In each of those cases, the Tories recovered and went on to win. In June 1994. Labour led by 61 to 22 per cent and the

Tories never really recovered. This time, the incumbent Blair Government is in a stronger position than at the previous election.

Mr Hague is also vulnerable among the Tory hardcore. He has low approval ratings among traditional Tory sup-porters such as professionals and managers, owner-occupiers and readers of quality/ broadsheet papers. Tory sup-

with Mr Blair (41 per cent) than with Mr Hague (30 per

The infighting over Peter Lilley's speech on public spending has reinforced these doubts. It has exposed presentational ineptitude and mistrust within the Shadow Cabinet. Much of Mr Lilley's speech was a largely uncontroversial attempt to reassure the public that most services will remained taxpayer-financed. The key point is whether people have to pay for services, not whether they are provided

The trouble was that Mr Lilley did not emphasise this distinction sufficiently and allowed the impression to arise

by the public or the private sec-

that the Tory approach was like Labour's. But, as Mr Hague argued on Wednesday. there is room for a radical Tory position which combines a commitment to taxpayerfunding of core services with greater private provision and extending choice. But the latest fracas has muddled this message, confused the party, and undermined Tory hopes of showing that they are starting to recover in next Thurs-

Can Mr Hague turn this desperate position round? As Mr Kinnock discovered, once an image becomes established in the public mind, it becomes hard to shift. All leaders make mistakes but Mr Hague now desperately needs some luck to go his way.

day's elections.

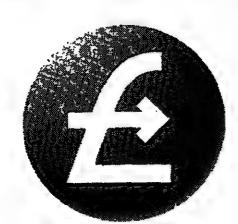
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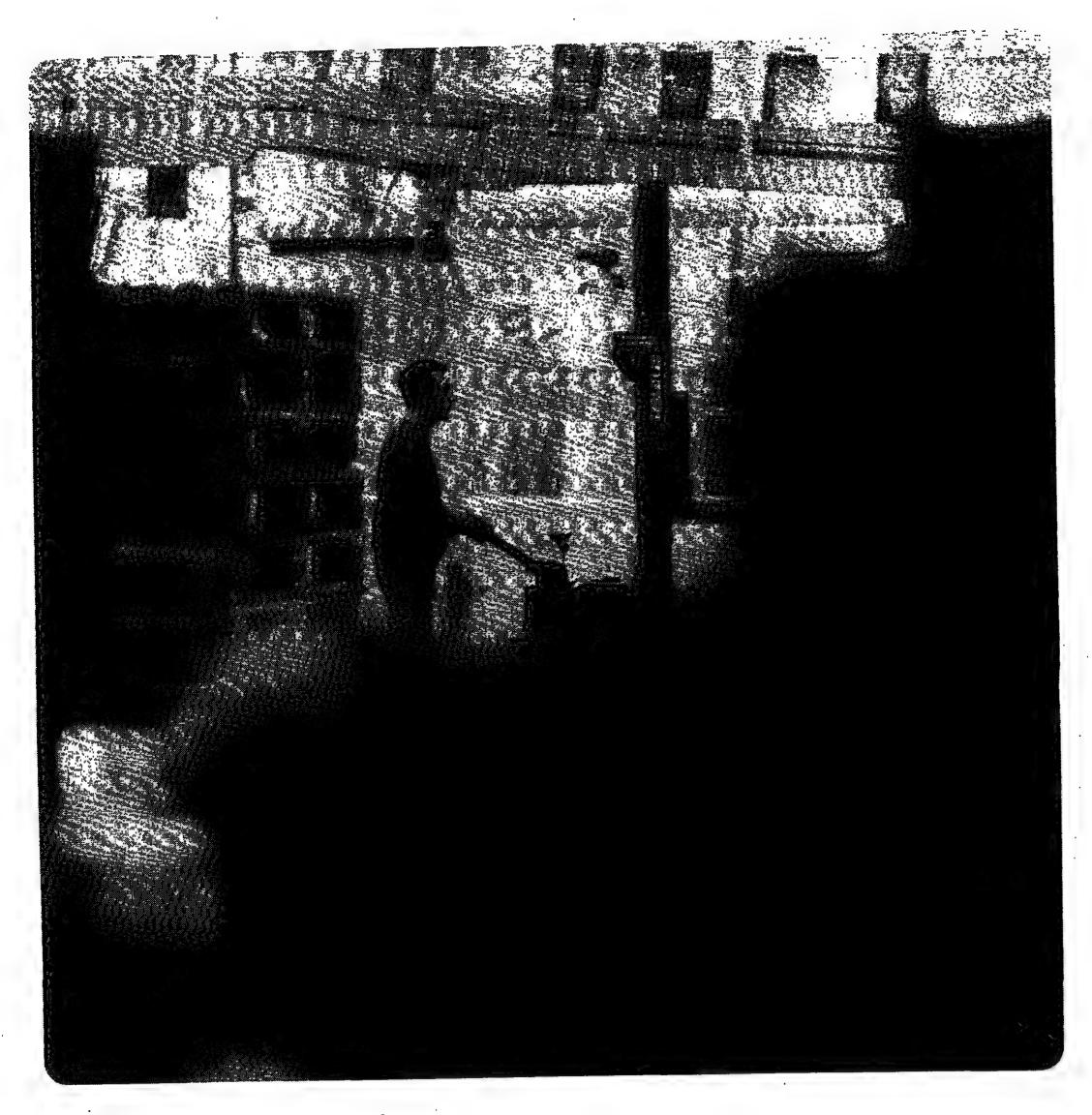
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BALKANS WAR: THE REFUGEES

Kosovo exiles housed next to Serb church

THE second group of Kosovan refugees to be airlifted to Britain were greeted on arrival yesterday with sandwiches and chocolate biscuits, along with a team of social workers and counsellors.

They landed at East Midlands Airport near Derby. where they were given papers and a basic medical examinations before boarding coaches

for two reception centres.

It had been an exhausting day for the group of 169 Kos-ovans, including 45 children and adolescents - seven of them under the age of two.

Preparations started before 6am, when the refugees at Stenkovec camp in Macedonia packed their few belongings into black bin liners and boarded coaches in the rain.

Red Cross reopens 210-bed hotel in Leicester to shelter traumatised Albanians, writes Alex O'Connell

tershire and Derbyshire were British Red Cross said the isstill being made ready yesterday for the refugees. The first centre is the Cygnet Hotel in

The Red Cross found the 210-bed hotel on Monday and signed a 12-month lease at midday yesterday. In a 48-hour makeover, kitchens were adapted and beds organised

so families could stay together. The choice of hotel has been criticised as it is only 100 yards from a Serbian Orthodox Church, St George the Martyr. However, Jean Greaves, director of operations at the sue had been discussed with a local liaison group. "It is not an issue at all. We had a meeting and no problems were raised. There has been a Serbian community in Leicester since 1947."

The Derbyshire centre, which received the more traumatised refugees, is at Stretton House in Alfreton.

Refugee Action, a charitable agency, was also working to tight deadlines. The manor house, set in 18 acres of rural countryside, was fitted out in 48 hours. Refugee Action workformer special-needs children's home, which is now owned by Derbyshire County Council.

On arrival the refugees will find family bedrooms, a TV room and a football pitch in the grounds.

The reception meal was simple - fresh fruit, lasagne provided by Meals on Wheels service, and fish, which the refugees have been used to eating

Sally Price, a spokeswoman for Refugee Action, has assembled 16 Albanian-speaking translators and six social workers over the past few days. She said: "I think people

will be very traumatised. The camps in Macedonia are dirty. there are rats and there is no



A young refugee embraces a friend at Brazde before flying to Britain yesterday

fied and dissatisfied). Readers

LINKS

Support for war remains firm

SUPPORT for the Government's handling of the Kos-ovo crisis divides sharply along lines of gender, class, region and newspaper readerhip, according to the latest MORI poll for The Times.

The poll, undertaken last weekend, shows that 57 per cent of the public is satisfied with "the way the Govern-ment is bandling the crisis in Kosovo", with 31 per cent This compares with the bal-ance of 60 to 28 per cent at the beginning of this month on a

broadly similar question. This is a small shift given the controversy over the campaign. Labour supporters back the Government's handling of the Peter Riddell says a MORI poll shows a majority of Britons back

to 23 per cent). Liberal Democrais are supportive by a 55 to 38 per cent margin and more than a half of Tories are satis-

fied, with two-fifths dissatis-fied (51 to 40 per cent). However, sharp contrasts exist between various social groups. The net balance of those satisfied minus those dissatisfied with the Government's performance over Kosovo is higher among men (plus 33 percentage points) than women (plus 19 points);

ment over Kosovo is lowest in Scotland, where the net bal-Blair's handling of the crisis ance in favour is plus 15 points compared with plus 37 class (plus 33 points) than the middle class (plus 18 points) where support has dropped points in southeast England outside London. Support for the Government is higher among 45 to most during April; higher among readers of "red top" tabloids (plus 39 points) than readers of middle-market pa-

64-year-olds, but relatively lower among 35 to 44-year-olds and those aged over 65. pers (plus 13 points) and read-ers of quality broadsheets (an even balance between satis-Satisfaction with the Government has improved over the past month by three points to 50 per cent, with dissatisfaction dropping by four points to 37 per cent. A total of 1.072 adults were in-

of The Sun and The Mirror

are strongest in support.
Support for the Govern-

terviewed by MORI about Kosovo between April 23 and 26.

Divided family find a **British** haven

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FROM STEPHEN FARRELL IN BRAZDE

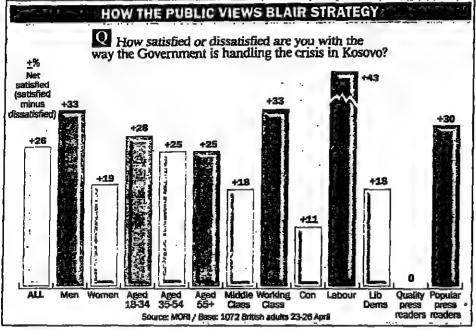
Among the 169 refugees was Sofie Shala, who lost her husband in Pristina when he returned for something in their flat after their expulsion six weeks ago. She has not seen him since and fears he is still trapped in Kosovo, possibly dead.

Carrying her seven-month-old daughter Blerta, Mrs Shala, 32, was near to tears as she and her sister-in-law, Adlije Shala, waved goodbye to friends at the sprawling Brazde camp

Last weekend it was they who stood tearfully behind the camp wire as their relatives flew out on the first flight to Britain, Rounding up her four children, Mrs Shala said: "We are very pleased we are going to England but we are sad to he leaving Kosovo."

Another man who suffered a nervous breakdown after being beaten by Serb police decided only at the last minute to join his family on the flight. Shukrie Maliqi, 32, was being treated at the field hospital in Brande until the evening before the flight departure, leading his wife Sami, 30, to doubt he would be able to accompany ber and their three children.

Up to six Kosovan refugees were killed by landmines as a new influx of ethnic Albanians poured into Macedonia, aid agencies said last night.



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BALKANS SUMMARY.

New air

target hit

by Nato

Paris: Nato planes hit a build-up of Yugoslav air power at a military airport

near the Montenegrin capital, Podgorica, Jean-Pierre Kelche, the French armed forces chief, said. There were three waves of attacks within 12 hours. (Reuters)

Protest strands supply lorries Salonika: Dozens of Nato lorries were stranded in a vegetable market after pro-

iters opposed to the allied

airstrikes removed signs marking the road to Macedonia. (AP)

Bomb blow to

Danube traffic

Vienna: Nato's bombing of

the Danube has dealt a se-

vere blow to shipping

which may take years to

overcome. Austria's largest shipping company. DDSG Cargo, said. (Reuters)

KLA fight on

as town burns

Kamenica: KLA guerrillas

and Serbian forces battled

in western Kosovo with the

region draped in smoke

from fires around the town

VIII

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nisters THETIMES. 1Sider Yugoslav A free' draft el plan dodgers The times. fleeing to Italy

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN GIOLA DEL COLLE

SCORES of Yugoslav Army deserters are entering Italy ille-gally but hundreds of others are evidently being sent back to Slovenia and Croatia by Italian authorities already strug-gling to cope with the influx of refugees from Kosovo, police reported yesterday.

Most of the deserters and conscription dodgers cross the frontier in northern Italy either with the help of professional smugglers or on their own to seek refuge among the Serbian community of 6,000 people that has existed in the multi-ethnic port of Trieste for

200 years, official sources said. The Italian news agency Ansa estimated that 50 young men had managed to take shel-ter in Trieste, while the National Refugee Office said it was aware of 15 young people who have arrived from Serbia and Montenegro.

A report in Il Messaggero put the number as high as 100, while Ansa reported that 200 others who tried to cross the frontier regularly at Gorizia and Trieste had been sent

Other Yugoslav deserters have been arriving in the southern region of Puglia among the thousands of ethnic Albanians whom smugglers have been ferrying to the Italian coast over the past week from Montenegro, authorities in the port of Bari say.

The lucky ones who make it

are believed to be only a drop . in the ocean of 50,000 Yugoslav people of military age trying to avoid the draft or desert, refugee agency sources in Trieste say. Not all those fleeing to Italy are young people. "I managed to escape from Belgrade with my wife and children a short time before the Nato bombs destroyed my home," Gradisa Jovanovic, 53, said from his bed in a hospital in the town of Scorrano in Otranto province where he was admitted with a cracked spine. He sustained the injury during a fall he had in the motor launch that left him at Frassanito, a sandy beach north of Otranto.

or Ofrango.

"Please do not separate me from my family," he told La Gazzetta del Mezzogiorno, speaking with difficulty. He made the journey with his wife Dergina, 41, and his five children ranged in age from 28-year-old Dragutin to oneyear-old Rada.

Also dropped on the beach was Aldzib Giulanovic, 46, who is quoted as saying he escaped from the Montenegran capital of Podgorica to evade military call-up. He was among 67 people described as Yugoslavs who arrived on the beach.

In the northern city of Gorizia official sources announced that a Serb army officer, Captain Petil, is being held under protective guard. "I am not a Kosovan," he said. "I am descrier from the Yugoslav Army."

Another refugee told state television: "I am 20. They sent me to fight. Milosevic wants to enrol young people to send to Kosovo to kill. I don't want to kill anyone. I am good-hearted."



200 feared dead in latest massacre

Aid workers see signs of final purge by Serbs forces

REFUGEES flooding out of Kosovo yesterday reported shootings, rape and system-atic brutality by Serbian forces as the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UN-HCR) said that it was now sure that a massacre had tak-

en place earlier this week. Investigators collected testimony from traumatised ethnic Albanians who told of masked paramilitaries driving them out of villages, raping women

and rounding up men, some of whom were shot on the spot.

Aid workers handling the latest exodus into Albania and Macedonia speculated that Serbian forces could be engaged in a "final push" to flush the remaining Albanians from the province. In the

in Kosovo, writes Charles Bremner in Brussels heads. Gunfire was heard and worst reported incident, confirmed by the UNHCR, be-tween 100 and 200 men were a later column of refugees re-

> west of Dakovica in southern Kosovo on Tuesday.
>
> They were made to kneel with their hands behind their

ported finding the road strewn with dozens of bodies. taken from a column of refugees near the village of Meja. The UNHCR, which is al-

ways cautious about reports of killings, said the accounts sug-gested one of the worst atroci-ties in the Kosovo conflict.

Jacques Franquin, a UNHCR spokesman in Albania, said yesterday there were enough concordant accounts of the incident from refugees to use the word massacre.

"This is the first time that the term massacre has been used. Until now the UNHCR restricted itself to talking of killings," he said.

The Yugoslav war crimes tribunal in the Hague is seeking

Saddam sends his support

of Djakovica. (Reuters)

President Saddam Hussein of Iraq has sent a message of solidarity to President Milosevic, backing him in "the face of

Belgrade plea for UN justice

Belgrade: Yugoslavia will ask the UN to prosecute those responsible for the Nato bombing of President Milosevic's home, the Foreign Ministry said. (AFP)

Prince Alexander: "The bombing is wrong"

Prince attacks 'video game US'

FROM JOHN CARR IN ATTIENS

THE head of Yugoslavia's exiled royal family, Crown Prince Alexander Karadjordjevic, appealed yesterday to Nato to
stop "playing its Nimendo games" with
the lives of Yugoslav civilians.

He said that all the attacks had done
was to maintain a hated dictator in power at the expense of prospects for Yugoslav demogracy. In Athens for a brief vis-

slay democracy. In Athens for a brief vis-

it, Prince Alexander made the latest of his appeals for an end to the conflict, this time criticising the United States for carrying out hostilities with a video game

"They can go and play their Nintendo games somewhere else." he said. "I am against the bombing. It is totally wrong." The prioce repeated his vow to stay away from his homeland, where he

claims he has "massive" support, as long

er. The son and heir of King Peter II. who was deposed by Muruhal Tito in 1946, the Prince made two exploratory visits to Belgrade in 1991 and 1992 to test pro-monarchist feeling. Prince Alexander said that he envisi-

as Slobodan Milosevic remained in pow-

oned a democratic Yugoslavia under his constitutional monarchy, although he agreed that the regional proclivity for intrigue, militated against that prospect.

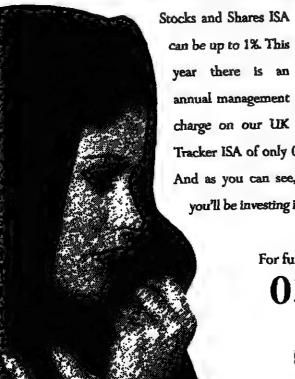
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why we have launched our 'Save the Children from Violence' campaign - to help all children affected by conflict. Active in the Kosovo area since 1993, we

have increased our efforts to respond to the current humanitarian crisis. Working in co-operation with other aid organisations, we

helps buy emergency kits, which contain: windproof jackets, warm socks, soap, towels, nappies and baby food helps keep a truck delivering

emergency parcels on the road

are distributing emergency parcels containing

essential survival items - bringing desperately needed aid to young refugees in Macedonia, Albania and Montenegro.

We have also set up a registration service to help reunite children who have been separated from their families. And we are dedicated to giving children the long-term support they need to make a lasting recovery from the damage that has been done to them.

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grade today. He will also tell him that Nato's core members are adamant that their forces must form the bulk of any peacekeeping force.

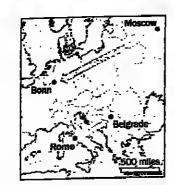
Making his second visit to

Belgrade in a week, President Yeltsin's special envoy won strong backing for his latest mission from Germany and Italy, where he touched down for rapid talks yesterday. Ger-hard Schröder, the German Chancellor, said that he saw "movement towards a political solution. But he said airstrikes would be suspended only after a verifiable Serb withdrawal.

Britain and America played down hopes of a break-through. Strobe Talbott, the US Deputy Secretary of State, echoed Nato's demand to form the "core" of any international deployment in Kosovo, a condition that Russia does not support and that the Serbs reject. British officials, speaking before Mr Talbott flew in for talks with Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, said that all Nato conditions had to be met

before airstrikes could stop. Mr Chernomyrdin said that he had concrete proposals to put to Mr Milosevic. His mission is crucial to Russia's attempt to play a bigger role in the Balkans. Before leaving Moscow, he had talks with Kofi Annan, the United Nations Secretary-General, who also met President Yeltsin. Mr Yeltsin said the stakes were very high — "not just for the Balkans and Europe, but for

the entire world". Russia's hectic diplomacy has been given cautious backing by the five other members of the Contact Group, whose



made safe for their return. That is our bottom line."

He suggested that Russia now accepted Nato's insistence on a heavily armed peacekeeping force in Kosovo, rather than lightly armed observers. "We are now getting down to the footnotes; the issues of principle have been resolved."

The sticking point is the composition of the peacekeeping force. Mr Chernomyrdin has told Western leaders that Belgrade would never accept forces from the countries now bombing the city. But Nato in-sists that this is non-negotiable. Whatever label is put on the force, it must, like the peacekeeping force in Bosnia, be run by Nato.

The pace of Russian diplomacy has quickened since Mr Chernomyrdin took over from Yevgeni Primakov, the Prime Minister. But the power struggle in Moscow has led to confusion, with different signals coming from different quar-ters. Western diplomats said they were not getting full briefings on what the Russians were telling Mr Milosevic.

Britain yesterday emphasised the cracks in the Serbian leadership. Mr Cook challenged Belgrade to allow John Simpson, the BBC correspondent there, to transmit a "startlingly frank" interview with Vuk Obradovic, a former senior general and army spokesman, who called recently for Mr Milosevic to resign.

We can assume that one of the brightest stars of the Yugoslav military elite would not have broken ranks alone," Mr Cook said. "How many of his former military comrades is he speaking for?



A 510th Fighter Squadron aircraft flying in support of Nato operations over Yugoslavia. The 510th is based with the US Air Force's 31st Air Expeditionary Wing at Aviano, Italy

Britain sends more bombers

BRITAIN is to increase its RAF bomber strength for Nato's air operation by 40 per cent, with eight more Harriers and Tornados.

The decision was announced by George Robertson, the Defence Secretary, yesterday on a visit to Gioia del Colle in Italy. He later flew by helicopter to the Royal Navy aircraft carrier HMS Invincible, which has seven Sea Harriers operating over

With 12 Harrier GR7s already operating from Gioia del Colle and eight Tornado GRIs from RAF Brüggen in Tornados and Harriers will soon join Nato air armada of 1,200 aircraft, reports Michael Evans

nados are aiready based at

Bruggen. An RAF spokes-man, Group Captain Glenn Edge, confirmed that the Har-

riers will be deployed at Gio-ia del Colle. An extra RAF re-

fueling tanker will also be sent to help to ensure that Nato can maintain a round-

the clock bombing campaign.

The Tornados at Brüggen

have a seven-hour round trip

STANDARD LIFE BANK

Germany, the total number of RAF combat aircraft engaged in airstrikes will be increased from 20 to 28. However, including the Sea Harriers carrying out combat air patrols over Yugoslavia, Brit-ain's total fighter/bomber contribution will be 35.

The extra Harriers will come from RAF Wittering in Cambridgeshire, and the Torto targets in Yugoslavia and need several mid-air refueling stops.
The British reinforcements

are the result of a request by General Wesley Clark, Nato's Supreme Allied Commander, who asked all alliance members to provide another 350 to 400 aircraft. America is expected to supply the majority. When the additional planes become operational, the Nato air armada will consist of about 1,200 aircraft.

Mr Robertson said: "Milosevic can now expect the air campaign to be far faster and

Votes rebuff for Clinton

By BEN MACINTYRE

THE US House of Representatives has refused to support airstrikes against Yugoslavia and challenged President Clinton's authority to wage a ground war, in two votes reflecting deep divisions in the US over whether and how to continue the Kosovo military operation.

A Democratic resolution supporting the Nato campaign failed to pass, with a

Wednesday night, hours after the House voted to block funds for the deployment of ground troops in the region without prior congressional approval.

The votes will have link practical effect on Americas role in the war because the White House has emphasised there are no plans to send in ground troops and Mr Clinton does not need House backing for airstrikes. But the rebuff of the President has taken leaders of both parties by surpps

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Igrade Township vigilante violence exposed on TV

FROM RAY KENNEDY IN JOHANNESBURG

SCENES of youths stripped naked and tied to a lamp post being whipped after they were found guilty by a taxi drivers' kangaroo court of gang raping a girl have been shown on South African television.

The documentary was filmed by an investigative unit of the state controlled South African Broadcasting Corpora-tion in the sprawling mixedrace Coloured townships, on the Cape Flats outside Cape Town. It is an area notorious for its gang culture and drug dealing where police are engaged constantly in murder-ous battles between rival drug lords and their followers.

The SABC film was shown a week after the BBC screened a documentary of highway pa-trolmen in Johannesburg kicking and beating up car hijackers whom they had been arrested and who were lying handcuffed on the ground as they Votes rebuf

set a dog on them.

The BBC film was made in January and one of the men shown being assaulted died later in hospital. His accomplice was jailed for 15 years.

The gangs operate under names such as the Hard Liv-

names such as the Hard Livings, the Americans, the Mongrels, Cape Town Scorpions and The Firm.

A Muslim-based organisation, People Against Gangster-ism And Drugs has been linked by the police to a series of bomb blasts including one on the Cape Town Waterfront development last year in which members of a British family on holiday were in-

The kangaroo court that

7.77

handed out the rough justice to suspected wrongdoers is indicative of the growing de-spair and fear among South Africans over the crime wave that has swept the country and the failure of the police and courts to deal with it.

Superintendent Vikus Holtshausen said yesterday that peo-ple in South Africa had had a bellyful of crime. "These kangaroo courts are taking place not just here but all over the country," he said.

"Although we urge people not to take the law into their own hands and hand suspects over to us, it is difficult to com-bat this sort of thing and be in the right place at the right time and stop it."

He added: "We realise that many people still do not trust us. There is still the apartheid legacy attached to the police service and we cannot change that overnight. Our job though is not to punish and you have to ask if Correctional Services are doing their jobs properly. Criminals do get caught and then they are let out on bail and the people are saying: 'Enough is enough'."

Eleven members of the high-

way patrol, including a wornan officer, have been suspended and are facing criminal charges of assault with intent to do bodily harm. The Independent Complaints Directo-rate said it had been flooded with calls from victims of crime in support of the highway patrol officers since the BBC film was shown. "They say they would have done worse things if they had been in the policemen's shoes."



An alleged rapist after his beating in Cape Town

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- For loans with a capped interest rate where this rate change takes C&G's standard variable rare below the capped rate. our standard variable mortgage rate will apply until further
- This notice does not apply to new variable rate loans which started on or after 16 April 1999 as they are already on the new rate. In addition, this notice does not apply to borrowers whose mortgage rate is currently fixed, or who have capped-rate mortgages where the capped rate is lower



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Television footage of punishment meted out by a Cape Town taxi drivers' kangaroo court on gang-rape suspects

'Aryan' gang faces justice

CLOSING arguments began yesterday in the trial of two American white suprema-cists accused of murder and other crimes in their grimly forlorn efforts to forcent

Chevie Kehoe and Danny Lee, both 26, face the death penalty if a jury of nine blacks and three whites finds them guilty in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Arkansas.

The case has echoes of the Oklahoma City bombing and the white militia fringe groups living in the backwoods who were investigated the arrest of Timothy. after the arrest of Timothy McVeigh, the Oklahoma bomber. Mr Kehoe and Mr Lee are

accused of plotting to over-throw the federal Government to set up a whites-only nation in the Pacific North-west, and of resorting to gun trafficking, armed robbery, bombings and murder to carry out their plan.

The pair were accused of a string of crimes that included bombing Spokene city hall in

Washington State, a video-taped shoot-out with police in Ohio from which they es-caped, the casual killing of two men in Idaho and drown-ing a white family of three in Arkansas.

The defence argued that the pair's revolutionary ambi-tions were no more than a

tions were no more than a hate-filled daydream. As one lawyer put it: "Without dis-respect to the court or anyone else, if these boys were in charge of conspiring to overthrow the Government, we're all safe."

The court heard that the accused, who wore Nazi tattoos, hated Jews and blacks. They formed a small terrorist group called the Aryan People's Resistance.
The trial has lasted two

months with a parade of more than 150 prosecution witnesses. They included Mr Kehoe's younger brother who took part in the shoot-out, grew weary of life on the run and surrendered to police, telling them where his brother could be found.





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Clinton cancels sanctions on 'terrorist' states

IN A major policy shift, President Clinton has abandoned sanctions on the export of food and medicine to three countries that his Administration accuses of sponsoring international terrorism: Iran, Libya and Sudan.

Of these. Iran is by far the biggest and most significant. The move is the first gesture of support for Tehran's less rabidly anti-American regime.

With a population approaching 70 million, Iran offers a lucrative market for US farmers. An initial order for wheat and sugar worth more than \$500 million (E310 million) is expected from Tehran soon, a wel-come boost with wheat prices at their lowest for ten years.

Mr Clinton decided that food should not be used as a tool of foreign policy, except under the most compelling circumstances, his aides said. In fact, he was under tremendous political pressure from the powerful farm states to ease up on economic sanctions.

The Administration had concluded that unilateral sanctions on sales of food and medicine hurt people more than governments, said Stuart Eizenstat, Undersecretary of State for Economic Affairs. An argument frequently heard on Capitol Hill is that "Saddam Hussein never missed a meal" because of sanctions. In addi-

Ian Brodie in Washington on

revival of medical

and food exports

tion to harming American farmers, sanctions did not help Washington's efforts to keep countries such as Iran from spending hard currency on weapons and terrorism, Mr Eizenstat said.

He also conceded that curbs on humanitarian goods were counterproductive because nations so punished used images of suffering innocents to por-tray the US as vindictive. The

LEADER'S FIGHT

Nicosia: Opponents of Muhammad Khatami. Iran's moderate President, have intensified their push to undermine him (Michael Theodou-lou writes). Calls have been made for the jail-ing of Gholamhossein Karbaschi, one of his allies, for corruption, and the impeachment of Attaollah Mohajerani, his

10 DAY

new policy will make a gener-al exemption for food and medicine whenever trade sanctions are imposed on countries by America in future.

The change does not directly affect Cuba, Iraq and North Korea - all considered "rogue" states - because American companies are already allowed to conduct some trade with them in food, medicine and other supplies. Iraq is already purchasing food and medicine under a United Nations oil-for-food programme.

The new gesture could be seen as reward to Libya for handing over the Pan Am flight 103 bombing suspects. but little trade is at stake. Nor is it with Sudan.

But Iran was the largest market for American rice and one of the largest for wheat at the time of the revolution that overthrew the Shah and led to the seizure of the American Embassy staff for 444 days. Iran now imports wheat worth over \$1 billion a year from other markets.

Since the election two years ago of President Khatami there has been a tempering of rhetoric between America and Iran, though each has reacted cautiously to any concrete improvement in ties,

Dolphin fitted

bathroom:

Terrorist training camps in Iran remain a stumbling block

Saddam feted as Babylonian king

THIS mural depicting President Saddam Hussein as Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, taking on 20th-century American foes, has been unveiled during a week-long celebration mark-ing the Iraqi dictator's 62nd birthday.

The regime has also inaugurated a multimillion-pound dam and lakeside resort as part of the celebrations. But defiance was the keynote of orFROM MICHAEL THEODOULOU IN NICOSIA

chestrated mass parades across the impoverished country as Saddam demonstrated the resilience of his reime in the face of economic sametions and a war of attrition by US and British military aircraft. "With your birth Iraq was reborn," read one of the many banners. However, the secu-

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rity-conscious President did not venture out in person to greet the crowds bussed in to wish him a long life at the new resort, named Saddam's Thar Thar City, or at the Great Dam on a tributary of the Tigris river. He celebrated his birthday on Wednesday evening surrounded by children from all over Iraq, according to the staterun news agency.

Displays of devotion failed to cam-

ouflage jitters felt by the regime, which is facing growing unrest, Travellers from Iraq say opposition to Saddam's rule has increased significantly since he was blamed for the assassination of a leading Shia cleric

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Dinosaur sheds light on continental drift

THE remains of a dinosaur unearthed in Portugal as long ago as 1988 have now supplied new evidence on when the Eurasian and American land

masses separated.
The fossilised bones, found near the town of Pombal, in central Portugal, show the animal to have been identical to numerous specimens of Allosaurus fragilis which have been dug up in the US. The fact that the Portuguese

fossils date from between 135

and 150 million years ago proves that the land masses that are now Europe and the Americas broke apart more recently than thought. scientists call the giant continent that the two land masses once formed part of, started to

break up about 250 million

years ago. What is not known

is when they separated completely.
"This is a very important find because it identifies a species that is common to Portugal and the US," Galofin de Carvalho, director of the National Museum of Natural History in Lisbon, said. 'That shows that the community of animals was the same — that there couldn't be just sea be-

tween the land masses." The reason for the delay in identifying the find, he said, was lack of money. The muse-um was gutted by fire 20 years ago and the Portuguese state did not provide the money to reconstruct it fully or make possible serious research.

The team that identified the fossils was led by a Spaniard, Bernadino Pérez Morino, of

Bones help to date

Europe-US split, **Alison Roberts**

in Lisbon reports

the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, and included American as well as Portuguese scientists. Their findings are to be published in the May edition of the Journal of the Geo-

logical Society of London. The species was named in 1877 by the celebrated American palaeontologist Othniel C. terial discovered in rocks from the Upper Jurassic period in the Morrision Formation in Colorado. Purther specimens have since been found in Montana, Okiahoma, Utah and

Allosaurus fragilis grew to about 12 metres in length and weighed 1.5 to 2 tonnes. It was one of the largest carnivorous

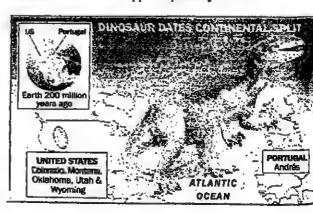
Jurassic period to have roamed what is now the Amer-

The Portuguese find in-cludes fragments of a cranium, several vertebrae, and a large part of the dinosaur's pel-

They were discovered on private land in the village of Andres, near Pombal. The land-owner promptly notified the Museum of Natural History. but it took a further decade to complete the work of identifica-

This is the second time that Portugal has hit the palaeontological headlines in recent years. A unique clutch of fossiltaining embryos, was found in 1996 near Lourinhä, just north of Lisbon.

The Museum of Natural History is lobbying the Government to transfer the eggs from the local museum to the capital. After the latest findings, Portuguese scientists are hoping for new funds for research to date the fossils more



Sharon sleaze scandal

ISRAEL'S election on May 17 was in danger of being overshadowed by sleaze yesterday as Israel Radio reported that one senior minister may face a fraud charge and a leading candidate compared his bribery conviction to the trial of Adolf Eichmann, the Nazi war criminal.

The radio said that Ariel Sharon, the Foreign Minister and a key ally of Binyamin Netanyahu, the Prime Minister, had been recommended for indictment by the police on bribery and fraud charges.

The police had no comment on the report. Mr Sharon's office said that it had not been informed officially of the move but that it hoped to clear the matter up before polling day. Officers had questioned Mr Sharon, architect of the 1982 invasion of Lebanon, about a trip to Russia he made as National infrastructure Minister in 1997 with Avigdor Ben-Gal, a businessman and retired major-general.

Suspicions that Mr Sharon. 70, tried to help the retired officer to clinch a multimilliondollar natural gas deal with Russia in exchange for false evidence from Mr Ben-Gal in

Christopher Walker reports

> on blow for Netanyahu

a libel action brought by Mr Sharon against a Tel Aviv newspaper are being investigated. The radio said that the police had also recommended indicting Mr Ben-Gal. Mr Sharon and Mr Ben-Gal

deny any wrongdoing. "Minister Sharon insists that the state attorney complete the investigation before the elections and has directed his lawyers to see to that," Raanan Gissin. Mr Sharon's spokesman, said.

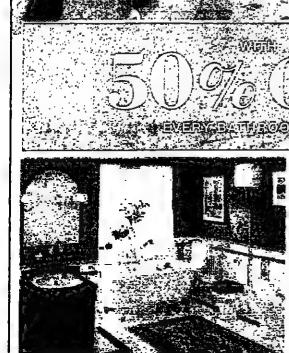
Earlier, Israeli politicians reacted angrily on hearing that Aryeh Deri, the coalition kingmaker, was planning to distribute thousands of election videos comparing his bribery conviction to the trial of Eichmann in the 1960s.

The video, made in response to the recent sentencing of Deri to four years in prison. threatened to deepen already dangerous social divisions between Jews of Ashkenazi, or European, origin and those of Sephardi, or Oriental, background. The latter traditionally have formed the underclass.

Deri, 40, who is still leading the ultra-Orthodox Shas Party, the third largest in terms of Knesset seats, while awaiting the result of an appeal, used the video to depict his conviction as caused by Ashkenazi prejudice and to accuse them of leading Sephandi youth to crime and drugs.

In a section that prompted rare unity among most of the 33 parties competing in the election as well as action by of ficials to see whether criminal proceedings could begin, Den compared the broadcast of the verdict in his Jerusalem District Court trial to the verdicts in the cases of Eichmann and John Demjanjuk. Eichmann masterminded

the Nazi genocide and was tried in Israel after being kidnapped by Mossad for a mal that gripped the world; Mr Demjanjuk, was a US citizen convicted of killing Jews in 2 Nazi death camp under the nickname of "Ivan The Terrible". He was acquitted later by Israel's Supreme Court



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Boy runs up \$3m shopping bill

James Bone in New York reports on the 13-year-old who could not stop bidding on Internet auction site

ANDREW TYLER'S mother started hyperventilating when she received the bill for her teenager's Internet shopping

The 13-year-old computer buff from New Jersey bid nearly \$3 million (El.8 million) on eBay, an Internet auction site, and won the bidding for five items, including two vintage cars and a \$400,000 antique bed once owned by Canada's first Prime Minister. "I'm in big trouble," the chastened

reen acknowledged. Andrew began his bidding frenzy when he unsuccessfully tried to sell his best friend as a slave, stating that "he's ugly and he smells" but "he will

work very well".

The bidding started at only
\$1, but still Andrew found no
takers and he quickly became a bidder for other items.

Over the next three weeks, he bid a total of \$2.8 million for 13 items. including \$1.2 mil-lion for a medical centre in Florida, \$500,000 for a Van Gogh painting and \$120,000 for the first issue of the Super-

The five bids that succeeded included \$23,000 for a 1955 Ford convertible and \$24,500 for a Corvette sports car, as well as the \$900,000 he offered for an 1860s bed once owned by Sir John MacDonald, the father of Canada's confedera-

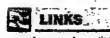
tion. The historic bed had been listed for sale on eBay since April 15 but had attracted bids make his online purchases. up to only \$12,000. Andrew's bid was the first to meet the seller's reserve price of \$400,000 and won the contest mother, Ingrid, to ask for pay-ment. "I said that he bought a

comfortably.
Under eBay's normal bidding procedures, the purchaser must pay the reserve price only if he is the only bidder to exceed that level - and now the bed's seller wants his

"Somebody owes me \$400,000," said Aubrey Garrett of the Internet Auction House in Kingston, Canada, who listed the bed for sale on eBay and says he was charged \$5,000 commission when the

sale went through. The site, which forbids minors from participating in auctions but does not ask for any proof of age, has banned Andrew as a "deadbeat bidder" and cancelled the account he

The company said that the boy's parents had an account and that the Andrew may



www.abay.com An auction house for anything from antiques to toys www.webcharity.com A virsual thrift shop (where items can be donated), Sale

even negative publicity about the site could only fuel public interest in online auctions and coin auctions and collecting information drive the shares higher.



Andrew Tyler concedes he is in "big trouble" with his mother after his spending spree

WORLD IN BRIEF

Commonwealth to readmit Nigeria

A Commonwealth working group has recommended that Nigeria be readmitted to full membership on May 29, when a democratically elected president takes over from the military government (Michael Binyon writes). Foreign ministers meeting in London called for lifting of the suspension imposed in 1995 after the execution of Ken Saro-Wiwa and other Ogoni activists. Since the death of the military dicta-tor, General Sani Abacha, sanctions have been progressive ly eased; the European Union has lifted all but military restrictions. General Abdulsalami Abubakar, the current ruler, will end 15 years of military rule by handing over to Olusegun Obansajo, the former general elected President.

Dili massacre threat

Sydney: A paramilitary group is planning to massacre supporters of East Timorese independence at the weekend, Amnesty International said. A document from the "Red Blood Commando" being circulated in Dili said that the group would evacuate integrationists from the capital on Friday night, then "exterminate and wipe out" anyone left in the city, Amnesty said. Pro-Indonesian militias have killed document of Fact Timoraes in recent weeks. ens of East Timorese in recent weeks. (Reuters)

Call to oust Mahathir

Manila: The wife of Malaysia's jailed former Finance Minister said the hold on power by Datuk Seri Mahathir Mohammed was slipping fast, but she wanted him voted out of office rather than ousted violently.On a visit here, Wan Azizah Wan Ismail, right, wife of Anwar Ibrahim, described Dr Mahathir as "a once-respected Prime Minis-ter who has lost all sense of perspective and all sense of right and wrong". (Reuters)



School murder plot

New York: Five 13-year-old boys have been charged with conspiracy for drawing up a bit list and plotting to bomb the McKinley Junior High School in Brooklyn. Police said that officers had recovered notes on how to make a bomb and a handwritten list of who was to be killed. Threats of bombs and shootings have plagued American schools since last week's massacre at the Columbine High School in Littieton, Colorado. (Reuters)

'Road rage' killing

Chicago: Police charged a man with murder after he allegedly ran down a cyclist in a fit of "road rage". Witnesses told police that the cyclist, Thomas McBride, 28, had pounded on the side of Carnell Fitzpatrick's car after the driver cul him up. They said that Mr Fitzpatrick allowed Mr Mc Bride to pass bim, then rammed his bicycle several times. When Mr McBride fell off, officers alleged, Mr Fitzpatrick, also 28, drove over him and sped away. (AP)

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Moscow warns Nato of nuclear build-up



RUSSIA yesterday fired a warning shot at Nato when President Yeltsin approved plans to develop and deploy tactical as well as strategic nu-

time alone."

market performance.

clear weapons.
As the Kremlin sought to negotiate an end to the war in Kosovo, the Russian leader put the West on notice that Moscow plans to maintain and upgrade the nuclear arsenal it in-

herited from the Soviet Union_ Last month the authorities retracted a threat made in parliament to re-target Russia's nuclear warheads at Western cities. Nevertheless, the Kremlin is aware that its standing

CRAND BPENING THIS SATURBAY IN BURNLEY, SALISBURY, STURUNG & SOTTON COLDETELD OPEN 7 BAYS A WELL' MOST OPEN SAN IN SAN KEN-SAI

Sabre-rattling against West has intensified, writes Anna Blundy

on the international stage depends largely on maintaining its nuclear might. The matters discussed at yes-

terday's closed meeting were so sensitive that the strategic forces commander and many of the President's most senior aides were banished from the room. Although Nato was not mentioned by name, Igor Sergeyev, the Defence Minister, had announced earlier in the week that Russia would

tional and nuclear capabilities. Russian newspaper reports interpreted this as meaning that the presidential security council meeting would focus on extending the lifespan of Soviet-era nuclear weapons, but Mr Yeltsin was keen to emphasise development.

need to review both its conven-

We will examine the state and prospects for developing Russia's nuclear weapons complex," the President announced. Experts agree that any development of tactical weapons would take upwards of a decade and few realistically expect that the resources needed for that kind of project could be found. "I doubt that any nuclear

tests or new developments will take place," wrote Leonid Radzikhovsky in Segodnya. They are just trying to scare the West. It is a bluff against the background of the hysteria over Yugoslavia." By showing off its nuclear capability Russia is underlining the real potential behind its continued anti-Nato sabre-rattling.



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Vivid background of oranges and fuchsia - not for the faint-Crescent W11 (0171-727 4594) 8/10

Square tray in twotone wood with a curved frame that will appeal to minima Conran, 81 Fulham Road SW3 (0171-589 7401) 7/10

edges. Cool and modern. Fraser stores (0171-963 2236) 9/10

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Objects of

buds adorn thing in Cath Kidston's range for Debenhams, From soft bath and hand towels (£40), hangers (£5) and pillows (£15). All from Debenhams stores nationwide (0171-408 4444).



Intriguing combination of still-life

photography and strong colours.

Extra large wooden tray with sculpted metal handles.

Marks & Spencer (0171-935 4422)

Beautifully designed and well

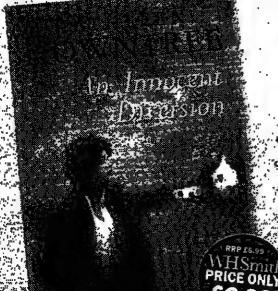
Are you missing out on an exquisite diversion? KATHLEEN

Simple fresh design for summer lunch in the garden.

stores (0171-963 2590)

'Delightful social comedy with undertones of real pain' Cospe Seethes with everyday human concerns... polguant comedy Sha 'Very seductive... a sly and witty writer' Marie Claire;

'A writer with an unusually sharp eye' Times? **Excellent'** Sunday Times



Dark, witty and suspenseful, An Innocent. Diversion is Kathleen Rowntree's new novel Once again, with

hameteristic busyour and compassion, a great British author shows that there is no such thing as ordinary

people and ordinar

Canteen culture

how or other, to set fire to a brace of knives. There they were, lying next to the cooker. ready to be taken over to the supper table, when I turned on the gas - and

It is just as well that I am not a superstitious girl because I bet some horrible fate - far worse than seven years' bad luck - traditionally lies in wait for people silly enough to set fire to more than one knife at a time.

This sort of little catastrophe happens quite a lot in our house. Every so often, brimming glasses of wine make their way purposefully to the edge of the table and fling themselves off. Dinner plates sidle up to the edge of the draining board and allow themselves to fall suicidally on to the limestone tiles below.

Occasionally I find myself cast in the role of involuntary executioner. "If you out that dish down there," a little interior voice murmurs, "it will fall and shatter, and you will regret it for ever after-wards." Invariably I go and do exactly what my subconscious voice has warned me against.

Not six months ago a particularly pretty plate decorated with a charming sketch by Sir Hugh Casson, of a har-

CUTTING **EDGE** JANE SHILLING

bour and fishing boats, came to grief in this fashion. I am mourning it still. For a long time I used to explain these small domestic tragedies to myself as the work of a minor-league poltergeist - mischievous rather than

malevolent, I thought. But lately I have begun to admit that they are probably my own fault. I am rather clumsy, and easily distracted, and since advancing age is probably not going to improve matters, the only thing is to make the best of it.

Take the knives, for example. They were perfectly hideous, with imitation-bone handles and impossible-to-clean steel blades. I knew they were a mistake the moment I bought them and only thrift has kept me from replacing them before now. Their unexpected immolation is a blessing, barely disguised. Now I shall go and get myself some proper cutiery, replacing, while I'm at it, the fussy Victorian King pattern silver spoons and forks that have been irritating me ever since I got

f I were getting married, or had come into an inheritance and felt sure enough of my taste to spend a chunk of it. I might head for Peter Jones, where a 60-piece canteen of Old English cutlery — a satisfyingly heavy, classic rat-tail design in sterling silver, which handles beautifully and whose looks will improve steadily with

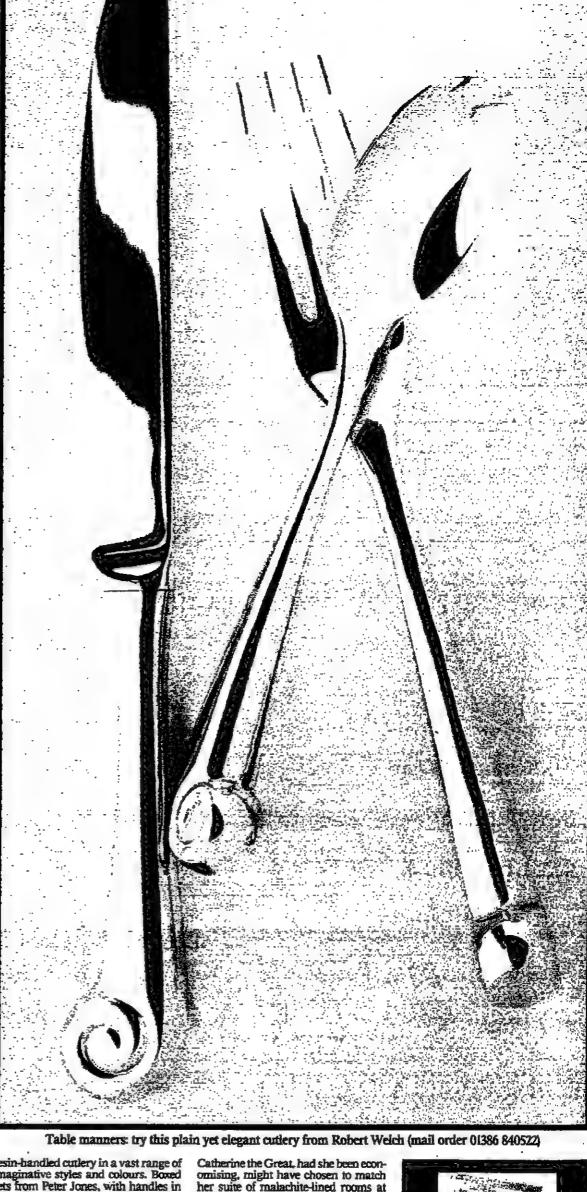
Greenwich, a slightly more modern design with gently squared-off chisel handles, costs the same. If your tastes run to something less austere. Rubans, by Christofle, a substantial, traditional design with a moulded ribbon border and a small bow detail, is feminine without being too fussy, and costs from £30 a piece for silver plate, or £62 for gold plate at the General Trading Company. The GTC also stocks horn egg spoons, £28 for a set of six or £138 for a set of six with silver filigree handles, and mother-of-pearl salt spoons, £6

If you don't want to make this kind of once-in-a-lifetime investment, Barker's has an elegant range of mid-priced designs in polished stainless steel from David Mellor, Villeroy & Both and Boda Nova, reduced by around 25 per cent in the mid-season sale, which lasts until Monday. David Mellor's Odeon - an elongated, Art Deco-inspired look - and Doris, a curvaceous style with teardrop handles, cost around £15 a

piece at full price, Boda Nova's extraordinary, wriggly Ibis design looks more like a series of small abstract sculptures than eating implements but is surprisingly comfort-able to use, very striking and excellent value at about £8.50 a piece.

Villeroy & Boch's etiolated Toscana and Conte designs are about £72 for a seven-piece place setting. At Peter Jones. Wrap is an interesting rustic design with tubular handles in a matt. blackened metal finish, from £4.95 a

Cheaper still, and very good value, is



resin-handled cutlery in a vast range of imaginative styles and colours. Boxed sets from Peter Jones, with handles in translucent jade, sky blue or clear resin, are £59 for 26 pieces, including two large serving spoons.

At Urban Outfitters, a four-piece set with imitation bamboo handles costs £10, or if you feel that is too kitsch, Inventory's Pinocchio design has light wood handles and costs £69.95 for a boxed set. Perla, with mother-of-pearleffect handles in white, jade or sapphire, is £49.95 for a boxed set, also

from inventory. Peter Jones has a slightly more sophisticated version of this look, with imnation ivory, malachite or lapis-handled cutlery from £2.75 a piece. Handsome though this semi-precious effect undoubtedly is — the sort of thing that

her suite of malachite-lined rooms at the Hermitage - it is perhaps a shade grand for the simple, delicious meals that one likes to imagine one may spend summer evenings consuming out of doors, seated in the shade of a jasmine arbour, the table lit with little coloured glass lanterns like something from Le Grand Meaulnes.

It had not occurred to me until now that one might have different sets of cutlery for summer and winter. But actualwhy not?

The perfect thing for a summer supper table is Nina Campbell's resinhandled cutlery, as crisp as freshly ironed linen, with a cornflower-blue toile de Jouy pattern and, from £7 a piece, hardly an extravagance at all.



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John's sensitivity was painful

NOW that I was out of Government I found myself observing the Commons with a more objective eye. It was then that I became aware of the single most striking fact about the British Parliament. Labour MPs, on average, are shorter than

When I tested my theory semi-seriously on a couple of colleagues and journalists, they either laughed it off or, more commonly, found something of sudden and compelling interest over my shoulder. The reason for their unease was not hard to seek: the idea of Tory giants lording it over Labour Hottentots upset that morbidly sensitive piece of equipment, the English social conscience. Such speculations seemed indelicate, but then the truth is normally in the poorest taste. It is strange how, as a nation, we lament the influence of class on our attitudes and thinking and yet, faced with incontrovertible evidence of its persistence, we deny it

vehemently. Fortunately things are not standing still, and I would not mind betting that new Labour members are, by and large, a centimetre up on their old Labour colleagues. At this rate of progress we can look forward, a couple of elections from

TOWARDS the end of my

My reason for writing to him was a final attempt to

crash the political barriers on

education, which to my eyes

should be more of a cross-

party affair, and to give a little

publicity to my ideas for over-

coming the great divide be-

chools. There are few times

private and state

In the final extract from his memoirs, George Walden dissects three giants of new Labour

JOHN PRESCOTT

now, physically at least, to a fully modern-ised Parliament.

A conversation with John Prescott re-minded me of another touchy area of parliamentary life, on which there is scarcely any public commentary: the relative intel-ligence of Tory and Labour MPs. Prescon, who seemed to me indubitably bright when you could make out what he was saying, struck me as a fine example of how difficult it is to decide the issue. After he made a disparaging remark about teachers I suggested, only half joking, that he should get himself made Opposition spokesman on education, meaning that it was a post where his rumbustious com-

mon sense could be usefully exploited. When he spluttered into his drink, as if about to explode, I thought, oh Christ, he thinks I'm laughing at him, he's going to call me a condescending bastard. Instead
he launched into a tirade against himself.

You don't from know the from half
of it. Every from letter I write I have to

get the secretary to check the Party grammar. Every time I get up in the House I can see you Provide Tories smirking at eve-

ry word I say, It doesn't make it any easier. Of course I can't form speak and
write properly. No one ever taught me."
His sensitivity was as painful as his
honesty was touching. The Tories did
laugh at Presont's linguistic muddles. But
if their laughter in the chamber appeared. if their laughter in the chamber annoyed him, he should have heard them in the tea room. They didn't tease him there, or criticise his politics, they did something worse: killed him stone dead with their condescension. Dear old John, the salt of the earth, our John, the kind of rough diamond Parliament would be lost without. Yes, say what you like about our John, we are really rather fond of him. Had he heard the way the Tories talked about him in private, I can imagine our John telling them where they could pursue get off.

happy to countenance edu-

cational privilege by cash or

social position but not by abili-

tv. Still. I felt that I had at

least lodged the thought in his

mind that, should he really

want to make a change, he

would have to tackle the segregated system. Meanwhile,

lacking its Dynorod, the

blocked society stays blocked.



In the tea room the Tories didn't tease John Prescott or criticise his politics, they killed him with their condescension

TONY BLAIR

time in Parliament I went to see Tony Blair. Such are the conventions of the Commons that you are right about the that it felt strange walking need for a certain course of acalong the Opposition corridor tion, and I felt strongly that one day something on the lines I was suggesting would have to be done. One day. to his room. Whips and defectors aside, the path to his office was infrequently trodden by Tory shoes. Fewer eye-Meanwhile, I had a horror of brows would have been becoming a single issue fanatraised if I had called on Kim ic, and of boring myself and Il Sung or Saddam Hussein, but I had written to Blair others silly on a subject few people in Parliament or the press wanted to know about. about education, he suggested we have a talk, so I went. and where it was hard to fore-Alan Howarth had recently see action. It was one of the defected and I suppose Blair many reasons I had decided may have thought that one to leave the Commons. But be-

fore I went I might just as well more Conservative was comhave a go at putting my thoughts to Tony Blair. ing across. Though I admired what he had done to bring his party into the 20th century before it was over, and knew and respected a number of his team, such as Jack Straw and Donald Dewar, switching to Labour, and exchanging one designate and he knew it. We tribe for another, had never entered my mind.

Long, smooth Tony lay draped across an armchair in his office. If ever a man was waiting in the wings, this was one: he was Prime Minister-

agreed that I would make known the fact of our meeting to the press (I wanted to scotch any rumours of defection), but that I would not divulge the contents. The undertaking was not hard to fulfil: Blair no newsworthy remarks. What could he have said? He was perfectly aware of the problem — and of the political difficulties of even hinting that he was thinking about solutions.

I left no wiser than when I arrived. Even if he wanted to do something, new Labour was boxed in. Quite apart from the threat to middleclass droits acquis, any mention of opening up private schools on the basis of merit and the Left of his party would froth at the mouth about selection. They are

JACK STRAW

ONE man with whom you could have a grown-up talk was Jack Straw, an energetic fellow with sound instincts (to agree with me privately on aspects of education, he must be sound) who was driven to distraction by years of trundling in your life - at least in mine through the lobbies to absowhen you are convinced lutely no effect: "You lot get fed

up just hanging about. But can you imagine what it's like to lose every time?" No wonder he's put his heart and soul into new Labour.

Extracted from Lucky George by George Walden, published by Pen-guin on May 6, £17.99, available to

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Boot cramp

UNDERNEATH

JOE JOSEPH

light. This is the surest way of not having to open your boot to put in a suitcase and findat ... Whoah! How did that get in there! Don't you sometimes wonder just how all

those mysterious objects have found their way into your boot, when (a) you're certain they don't belong to you, and (b) if you ever met the person they did belong to, you'd be very scared that they knew where you lived? I opened the boot of our car yesterday to discover an enormous pair of curtains, bun-

dled like a corpse into a large plastic bin-bag. They looked as if they were the victim of a ruthless Mafia hitman, hired to settle a score in the underworld of soft furnishings, and were now awaiting their final midnight journey over the side of Blackfriars Bridge. The curtains have to

share space with remnants of maps, which we keep in the boot on the offchance of one day finding ourselves lost in the very three square inches of France covered by, say, this torn fragment, which is all that survives of our Touring Atlas Of France. How is it that a whole, hardback atlas goes missing, yet a tiny corner of the Loire can hang around in your boot for years, like a

cussed sitting tenant? During winter the map fragment hibernates under an empty green petrol can which we carry around religiously, even though it has lost its

screw-on nozzle, which effectively makes it uscless if we were ever to run out of petrol on a remote country lane. A same person would have thrown it away years ago. On those occasions when the boot is packed to the hilt with luggage, we take the petrol can indoors. always remembering to replace it in the boot at the earliest opportunity, so that it can resume its purposeless, Beckettian existence.

There are also plenty of wellington boots, but — unfathomably — no matching pairs. Because we have no obvious use in London for the three long fishing nets we bought in Brittany four summers ago for a rock-pooling expedition, they, too, live in the car boot ignored and unloved. It's no life, really. Next to the umbrella - whose spokes

snapped like grissini in a howling storm the

winter before last, making it less effective as

y advice to those of you who are planning to drive off somewhere we also keep emergency supplies in our for the long weekend is to travel boot) — stands a black, knotted bin-bag.

we also keep emergency supplies in our boot) — stands a black, knotted bin-bag. This bag is full of — actually nobody can remember what it's full of exactly. We be-lieve it to contain those stray items that had accumulated in the boot prior to its last valeting, when the man at the garage must have tidied all the junk he found in the boot into this bin-bag. Inside, in airtight temperatures nudging 220C, the bag's undisturbed contents have probably developed their own ecosystem. Maybe our French road atlas is in there swarms of bacteria now know every

inch of France like the back of their nuclei (except, irritatingly, for a few square miles of the Loire). We don't outgrow the interiors of our cars, we outgrow our boots, though not everything in the boot need take up a lot of room. Here, for instance, is a

yellowing letter from a magazine company telling me that I'm on the shortlist to win El million and/or a luxury holiday in an all-inclusive resort in Antigua Choliday excludes fine wines in the hotel's French restaurant'). All I had to do was scrape the scratch-card and send it back in the enclosed envelope. But did I send it back or not?

I certainly don't recall winning £1 million, or a holiday to Antigua (fine wines excluded), even though I sent the letter back in the "No" envelope. I'm assuming this last bit, but only because I ha-

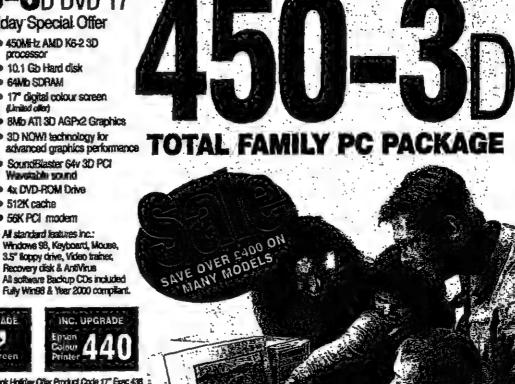
ven't been receiving regu-

lar copies of this magaz in my mail: this would suggest that I didn't take up the subscription offer. I must have held firm on this point because there was a mystery prize if you not only sent the form back in the "Yes" envelope, but also sent it back within five days. The other possibility is that I did receive the mystery prize and I

But I know that were I to throw this scrap of paper away, the reason for its residence in the boot would become apparent the very next day, and then I would just feel foolish. Why expose myself to ridicule by discard-ing a slip of paper that's not taking up much room in the boot? Not compared with the blue crocheted dog blanket, at any rate. And

the best bit of it is, we don't even own a dog.

cash providest APROS or 38 didn't realise whom it was from, having clearly forgotten all about the original letter maybe the curtains are the mystery prize. 0800 771107 Open: Mon-Fri 8.30am-7pm, Sat 9sm-5pm





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United by a common hatred

James Heartfield explains

why Britain needs neo-Nazis

ould another race war be looming? Bombs are going off in Britain's immigrant communities. Stephen Lawrence's killers still walk the streets. In America teenagers celebrate the birthday of Hitler by slaughtering their classmates. And when Oona King, MP for Tower Hamlets, received hate mail from the extremist group, the White Wolves, threatening a millennial bloodbath of all non-whites, it only added to widespread suspicions that a Fascist movement might be growing again.

With the threat of more nail bombs hanging over the country no one can afford to be complacent. But the background to these events is not the resurgence of the far Right. It is its collapse. In 1980 the British National Party and the National Front regularly occupied Brick Lane, lining up on either side of the market end on a Sunday. Their message then was that Brick Lane belonged to them and that they were not going to give it up to the Bengalis. Yet they did give it up. and you can be sure nobody will be selling Fascist newspapers there this

The police do not yet know who planted the nail bombs, but let us assume that it was one of the many far-Right groups that have claimed they were behind the

attack. A descent into random bomb-The police ings is a sign of these extremists' are now frustration at their declining influ-ence. One Combat cast as 18 document candefenders didly admits: "The race war is not of ethnic about to happen, so we must start it minorities ourselves."

But instead of marking a resurgence of the far Right, the bombings are uniting the country in opposition to it. ironically, Britain's fractious political culture is dependent on the threat of extremism to bind it together. The significance of the far Right in British politics is not the support that it gets from the public This is minimal. Rather the role which the far Right plays is that of all-purpose bogeyman against which de-cent people unite. Newspapers and politicians tend to exagger-ate the influence of neo-Nazi groups. Lurid tales of European networks of Fascist groups poised to seize power

elamorise what is in the end a tiny group of cranks. The poet Cavafy wrote of a city that was galvanised into action "because the barbarians are coming today". Statesmen and emperors are given a powerful sense of purpose. But the day ends in confusion when the barbarians fail to show. "And now, what's going to happen to us without barbarians? They were, those

people, a kind of solution." London's authorities have also been galvanised into action by the threat of barbarians. The bombings have cast the police in a new light. They have become defenders of the black communities of Brixton and Brick Lane. Where once they would have been criticised for having too high a profile in these areas, now the harshest censure they face is that the police station in Brick Lane is not fully manned.

Undercover police officers are suddenly finding something more plausible to do than infiltrate animal rights groups. Since the IRA retired from the field, the Special Branch has been looking around for an enemy worthy of its attentions. When you want to tap phones and spy on people, you need a just cause.
The White Wolves fit the model of extremist danger

perfectly.

Oona King has also risen to meet the challenge. At the time of the last general election, she was parachuted into the Tower Hamlets constituency and ousted the local Bengali favourite, Jalal Uddin. The de-mand for a black MP to replace the retiring Peter Shore had become unavoidable. But the new Labour team did not want to become hostage to Asian activists in the constituency, so they chose Ms King as an acceptably loyal candidate. Now she has become a target for the White Wolves, any criticism of her

status will be silenced. Jack Straw, on walkabout in Brick Lane, can also pose as the friend of Britain's immi-grant communities, leading the search for terrorists of the far Right. But at the same time Mr Straw is steering a new Asylum Bill through Parliament that aims to limit even further the rights of foreigners

to enter Britain. The Home Secretary wants to threaten the employers of asylum-seekers with prosecution. and to get registrars to check the passports and papers of couples before they marry. His Bill — which was backed by Ms King — has a special proposal to prevent asylum-seek-

ers from receiving welfare benefits. Instead, in measures that stigmatise those seeking asylum in this country, they will get special Home Office vouchers. By targeting asylum-seekers the Government reinforces public resentment of such foreigners. When an influx of Slovak Gypsies arrived in Kent last year they were greeted with hostility.

et you only have to say "Nazi bombers" to stir up deep sentiments of national unity in Britain. The blitz soirit is an enduring part of our island story. The neo-Nazis may thrive on myths of invading hordes from Asia, but the official culture, too, has its myth of foreign invasion. Except this time it is the far Right that is cast in the role of foreign invaders, always called by a German name, "Nazis", as if racism was something terribly un-British. Doubtless that is a flattering picture to the powers-that-be, but it is not necessarily true.

Today the far Right is merely a handful of embittered cranks, many of whom are in prison. Their ability to launch a race war single-handed is non-existent. But British political culture still needs them. They are the enemy that binds the country together under the safe protection of the Home Secretary and his police ans we are waiting for.

James@heartfield.demon.co.



With friends like these

sk the Tory ancients to name their party's secret weapon and they used to give a collective wink. Loyalty, they said, was their sword in good times and their shield in bad. With loyalty on their banner they could meet with triumph and disaster. They could rally behind the daftest leaders and cheer the daftest policies. To question the party was to die.

party was to die.

Suggesting loyalty to today's Conservative Party is like preaching clemency to the Borgias. What can we say to these tortured souls? They demanded strong leadership from Margaret Thatcher, got it and ratted on her. They demanded a personality transplant from John Major, got it and ratted on him. After the 1997 debacle they demanded a new generation from William ed a new generation from William Hague, got it and are ratting on him. They wanted a clean break, and now accuse him of making a clean break. They tell him to lead, yet they hesitate to follow. What a bunch.

After the past week's fiasco over whether or not to renounce Thatcherism, Mr Hague has joined his two predecessors in being told each week that he is lighting for his life. He was elected to bring the energy and savvy to a defeated party that could beat Labour at its own game. He spoke well and cut a dash in Parliament. He was the provincial. managerialist, Eurosceptical Conservative of the future. No casting agency could have done better. Yet no sooner has the party patted Mr Hague on the head and flicked the fluff from his collar than it knees him in the groin. There is no other plausible leader in the Commons. Mr Hague was elected to guide the Tories through the valley of the shadow of tears. They can hardly complain that he has yet to make

The chief case against Mr Hague is that he is doing appallingly in the opinion polls. These polls used to be no more addictive to a politician than the occasional snort of cocaine. Today they are taken intravenously and with shared needles. For all the caveats that polisters give to their findings, politicians have the same obsession with polls that actors have with critics. Nobody can take seriously the wild rise and fall in the Scottish National Party's rating before next week's Scottish election. It seems that hypothetic questions about elections "tomorrow" are now

treated as mere invitations to

Suggesting loyalty to the Tories is

like preaching clemency to the Borgias

protest. Respondents appear ever more wilful in answering such questions, but since the only comparator is a real election there is no way of measuring this wilfulness over time. At present, I sense that asking how many people would vote Tory "in an election tomorrow" is like asking in 1942, "if the war stopped now, who would you say was going to win?" For the Tories to read the polls and behave as if Mr Hague had already lost is facile defeatism.

of the shambles from which Mr Hague extricated himself with alleged aplomb on Wednesday night? Peter Lilley's now notorious renunciation speech last week had its roots in the party's continued misreading of the last real poll, the 1997 general elec-tion. This misreading is taking on the status of a truly stupendous error. That election was

not a repudiation of

Yet what to make

Thatcherism or of 18 Tory years. It was a gesture of boredom with the Tory Cabinet, a by denying his past in 1995-96, so sense of fair play and an acceptance that the Thatcherite revolution would be safe in Labour's hands. It was not a thumping endorsement of Tony Blair's "Third Way": he did not win even half of a low poll. Only the arithmetic of first-past-the-post gave him a sensational Commons majority. As it was, every substantive feature of the Thatcher-Major era, from privatisation to Treasury spending priorities, was entrenched in the Labour manifesto. As in 1945, the Tories had won the war but lost power. The public was happy with the victory but fed up with the

The Conservatives hate that message. They are still reacting like a lover spurned. They cannot quite believe the electorate simply tired of the sight of them and long to believe that it was all a misunderstanding, the outcome of a rectifiable fault.

The leader-in-waiting, Michael Portillo, stalks the country with a television camera, pleading to be told what went wrong. The party cannot bring itself to disappear for three years and wait for absence to work its proverbial magic. Hence the self-flagellation, the "savage six" ICM focus groups which reportedly told the party to don the sackcloth and apologise for Thatcherism. In the hands of a suspicious trio of former David Owen aides in Mr Hague's office, the tactic scaled new

heights of half-wittedness. Tory managers surely have a clear objective. to win back the Tory deserters who voted for Mrs Thatcher three times and elected Mr Major in 1992. It passes belief that the best way to do this was to assert that they had voted for a heartless and uncaring party and that the public sector up-heavals of the 1990s were a ghastly mis-

The explanation for this aversion therapy is that Mr Blair did all right

why not try the same ruse? Dress Mr Lilley in sheep's clothing and watch the punters purr in the clinics and the classrooms. Watch little children run to kiss his hand. But in 1995. Labour had something serious to deny, a miserable past and a dud ideology. Thatcherism was widely seen as a success, imitated the world over, not least by Labour. Unless Mr Hague has a secret (undeniably exciting) plan to put the Tories to the left of Labour, the last thing he should do is smear Thatcherism or publicise a nasty focus-group stereotype. Thatcherism should be off message, an "-ism" of the 20th not the 21st century.

The true reason for this flounder-ing is that neither Mr Hague nor his colleagues have yet found a political vantage point from which to assault Mr Blair. Despite his background, Mr Hague emerged as

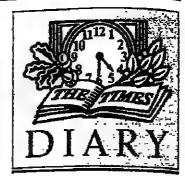
leader from within the party's London elite. Like Mr Blair he is instinctively a "nationaliser", sceptical of localism and inclined to demand of government that something must always be done. He is anached to the "consultancy culture" of the Westminster apparat. Rather than revitalise his party from the roots upwards, through the voluntary National Union and a semi-independent Central Office, he has concentrated the party machine under his own office. This leaves him badly exposed if things go wrong. Nor has he responded to the yearning of the shire parties, for him to champion a restoration of their local government power bases, stripped out by Mrs Thatcher. The morale of any opposition party is rooted in local politics. The image of Mr Hague's Conservatism is still that of the think-tank seminar and the Daily Telegraph lunch.

his Government has made

itself invulnerable to the old Tory charge of socialprivatisation. Labour ministers have "businessmen" in their entourages much as do their Moscow counterparts. Yet there is a wealth of former Tory values to which Labour should be wholly vulnerable: antistatism, decentralisation, pluralism and libertarianism. The latest Political Quarterly is devoted to a critical audit of Labour's record in democratic change, described by David Beetham and Stuart Weir as designed to "carry out reforms at the periphery but strengthen the concentrated power at the heart of govern-ment". Mr Blair's Cabinet is fashioning the most centralised and unaccountable Government in the West. Ask any doctor, lawver, farmer. teacher, civil servant. Through performance targets and audit, Labour is creating de facto a national police force, a national school system and a national training industry, along-side an ever more centralist health and welfare system. Bureaucratic regulation now outstrips anything seen in peacetime Britain. Housebuilding quotas are being forced on every county with a draconianism unknown outside the former Communist world. Local government is still the most impotent in Europe.

Finding a Tory cause in this morass is hardly seeking a needle in a haystack. Yet they go and attack the Iron Lady instead.

simon.jenkins@the-times.co.uk



Safety first

IN THE wake of Jill Dando's death, the BBC has ended interviews with MPs on College Green. This is to protect Robin Oakley, its political editor, and his cute side kick, John Sergeant, from fanatical Serb hitmen (never mind the MPs. who are thought to be safe). This follows my story that grief counsel-lors are moving into White City, suggesting the Beeb is wobbling.

Security has also been tightened at its Millbank offices, Sergeant, a jovial cove who wrote jokes with Alan Bennett and Michael Palin, sees the absurdity: "They asked me for my pass, even though they clearly knew who I was," he tells me. "I said: "Do you think I'm going in there to shoot myself?

TONY BLAIR, Forces' comedian: flying to Washington from Chicago after delivering a war-cry to America, the PM headed for the cockpit, and cried: "I'm taking this plane to Belgrade."

IS THE Prince of Wales pondering a Sean Connery-style "bone-head"? During a tonsorial chat, Jim Tavare, a comedian who sports the shaven-haired look, was quizzed by the Prince about its merits.

"He asked me 'where's the hair?" says Tavare, "and how often I shaved it. It can look distinguished - look at Sean Connery (pictured with the Prince) - but I really don't know if it would suit a royal.





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GERMAINE GREER has been dealt a poignant blow. Having said plebs should be banned from sifting through old manuscripts, Professor Greer was asked at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington if she was "a fit person to handle rare materials. Her university had to supply references. "Clearly her fame doesn't travel," says a naughty colleague. "I can imagine her face when she was told."

■ A GENTLE whipping has been administered to excitable Liberal Democrats at their parliamentary meeting, after Earl Russell threw Jackie Ballard's hat into the leadership ring. Paul Tyler, the Chief Whip, has "reasserted" the rules for the race to replace Paddy Ashdown after Russell reputedly mouthed early support. There was some concern that everyone had forgotten what they had earlier agreed. There was a request for clarifica-. tion," says Tyler carefully. "I don't see that I have broken any rules," insists the erudite Earl.

NEW threat to William Hague's teetering leadership from Lord Tebbit. He is taking William's brightest henchman, Jain Duncan Smith, shooting. "Iain had better watch out," I am told. "Norman 🦠 shoots anything that moves."



■ WHEN Tony Benn eulogised about the late Anthony Crosland at the launch of his biography, few knew the truth about their friend ship. I now learn of the impatience with which Crosland could, on occasion, view his impassioned

pipe-puffing protégé.
"Tony would cycle round to Crosland's to have long, boring chars about ideology, but Crosland regarded weekends as sacred for relaxation." Once, Susan Crosland told Benn: "Ten minutes later and we would both have been in bed."

THE Household Cavalry charged to the rescue vesterday after a . man was knocked over as they practised in Hyde Park. The manhit by a tourist coach on an adjoining road, was nursed by army doctors - there to watch rehearsals for next month's Major-General's Parade — until an air ambulance arrived. Who -says they are there just for show!

are there just for short

'We are not Humphrey Bogarts wearing green eyeshades or sporting trilbys on the back of our heads'

every day in every way, things do not become worse and worse. It just seems so on a bad morning. Perhaps it was the port you drank last night. But in spite of the grouching of the Jeremiahs (usually, like the original Jeremiah, elderly males suffering from the elephantine midlife crisis known as musth), our young are at least as good as their ancestors. In spite of the widespread rumours about dumbing down, young journalists of the future are brighter than their predecessors. Anybody who doubts this should have met the undergraduates studying English at The Times annual lecture at Oxford

on Wednesday night. "Journalese" has been a snobbish insult since newspapers began. Queen Victoria would not have "the atrocious Times" in her palaces because of what she deemed its disloyalty in opposing

the appalling conduct of the Crimean War and in supporting electoral reform. Henry James in The Bostonians used journalism as an example of the sensational-ism and superficiality of modern life. James himself was no mean journalist of the dignified sort. though in his journalistic contributions he could have used a good sub with a chopper not a needle. But the old notion of prose as the selection of the best words, poetry as the best words. in the best order, and journalese as any old words in any old order

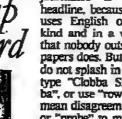
is just not true, if it ever was. It is true that daily journalism demands the ability to fill a space without spilling over in the alarmingly short time available, a skill that Henry James never acquired. But one of the many achievements of Jean Aitchison. the Professor of Language and Communication at Oxford, is to have opened up newspapers, film, cartoons and all the other modern media as interesting genres of communication that can be done well or badly, and deserve study as well as Beowulf.

ought to reflect ordinary writing, which they influence and by which they are influenced. A modern paper is a great

Newspapers

hamper which contains many parcels. You do not have to open them all. You do not have to approve of or agree with them all. But you ought to be able to understand them all. And if you do not find some things that are enjoyable or useful, you should change your paper, or read Henry James.

One of the very few packages



uses English of a kind and in a way that nobody outside papers does. But we do not splash in big type "Clobba Slobmean disagreement, or "probe" to mean investigate, or "axe" to mean reshuffle to spend more time with his family, just

for sensational effect, as though we were Humphrey Bogarts, wearing green eyeshades or trilbys on back of heads, and cigarettes in corners of mouths.

Because of the tight space, and the wish to use large type, short words go better into headlines than long ones. In the forest of headlines, three characters good, 21 characters ... forget it. that can properly be described as Henry. Even though corporal

journalese is the punishment has been banned for headline, because it years, sub-editors either experienced it or read about it in the Beano, with Billy Bunter screeching "Yarooch" for all eternity. Headline English still swishes with caning, thrashing, and flogging. One of Jean Aitchison's many projects is work on headline language. I am interested to see whether she finds that Headlinese influences ordinary English outside the narrow column. I suspect that readers are starting to say "probe" and "axe" and "brave" (as a verb) in real life,

> Isewhere in newspapers, it is bad manners and bad journalism to use Isewhere in newspapers, bad journalism to use words that nobody else outside the trade uses. Idiosyncratic columnists, provided they are as good as Henry James, are exceptions that prove the rule. · will put up with the atrocious There is a good rule there. Tube for a good read.

echoing their newspapers.

notwithstanding. So the computer should squeak when we tap "amidst", or "crucial", or "firstly ... secondly ... thirdly", or "notwithstanding". I could read Jean Aitchison on the newspaper category of leading article, the robust journalistic convention that the world would be a far, far better place if it were run from the newspaper office in question. It may be true. We give this solemn warning to Kaiser Wilhelm: The Skibereen Eagle has its eye on you."

With its funny ways, new and ancestral, and the quality of the young coming into it, the future of British journalism shines bright. On a bad morning, I wish that a few of those clever young hacks and hackettes would go into some dire industry. like trains, in which the rest of the world leads us. But then, no. I

APRIL 30 Mg



BREAK WITH MILOSEVIC

Nato must show that it is serious about stabilising the Balkans

With the apparent blessing of America, whose Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott has just been in Moscow, Viktor Chernomyrdin flies to Belgrade today to put what he calls "concrete proposals" to Slobodan Milosevic, Gerhard Schröder, whom he saw in Bonn en route, spoke of "movement" and repeated Germany's view that Nato could suspend airstrikes once Belgrade had "verifiably begun" to with-draw from Kosovo. This is naive and dangerous talk. Just such a compromise was accepted by the US envoy. Richard Holbrooke, in negotiations last October, a licence to cheat which Mr Milosevic exploited so murderously that Nato was forced to carry out its threat to intervene.

Just when Nato should be piling pressure on Belgrade, these diplomatic flurries will have the opposite effect. The calculation that Russia would rather work with than against the West takes, at present, too much on trust. Russia does not accept Nato's terms for ending this conflict; and Mr Chernomyrdin repeated yesterday that unless Nato first stops bombing. negotiation is "a wasted effort".

He is right about the wasted effort except that it is potentially worse than that. As the Nato summit affirmed only days ago, its terms - the withdrawal of all Serb forces and the return of all refugees to their homes protected by a Nato-led force - are a bare minimum. Tony Blair has said that there is nothing left to negotiate. But Mr Milosevic will interpret the enlistment of Moscow as an Allied search for a face saving exit that avoids a ground war, putting victory within his grasp.

The Serbian leader does not need much to "win". He does not even need proof that Nato lacks the will to stand by its declared war aims; all he needs to show is that he remains the man with whom, whatever war crimes he commits, the West will in the end do business. For a decade, he has exploited the legitimacy that Western negotiators have conferred on him to tighten his grip at home while he prepares his next aggressive move. If Nato continues to treat the generator of successive conflicts as its interlocutor, it will show that it is not serious about stabilising the Balkans.

The overthrow of Mr Milosevic is not a Nato war aim. But that does not oblige Nato to talk to him, directly or through intermediaries. His word is not to be trusted, and Western leaders should make. that plain. They should be doing everything possible to convince the Serb political establishment, which knows that his disastrous, Greater Serbia policy has ruined their country and is at the root of their current predicament, that his removal is their swiftest route to peace.

These people know about the atrocities in Kosovo, even if most Serbs do not. Far from burning Nato's bridges, the indictment of Mr Milosevic for war crimes, with the charges publicly laid out by the tribunal at The Hague, would crystallise the unease which has begun to surface, underline the world's refusal ever again to treat him as part of a political solution and further loosen his grip within the Serb elite.

But the Yugoslav Army must also be convinced that its destruction is certain. It has not bothered to dig in deeply in Kosovo, because Belgrade believes that Nato will never risk a ground assault, a belief that the rumblings on Capitol Hill will reinforce. The chief of the US Air Combat Command bluntly stated yesterday that reliance on air power alone means a long war and a "risk of failure" and is stretching even America's capacity to produce the precision weapons required.

Nato does not have to agree on a ground war before deploying the 28,000 troops it will need to enforce a political settlement. To keep Belgrade guessing, they should be equipped for battle. So far, Nato has 19,000 in theatre, but that includes 8,000 in Albania equipped only for humanitarian relief. But France has troops ready to embark, Germany is shipping in heavy armour and Britain could add a third armoured battle group to bring its forces in Macedonia up to 8,500. Governments should stop talking about a build-up taking "months"; America's rapidly deployable forces include not only the XVIII Airborne Corps. but the US 3rd Mechanised Infantry Division, both kept at a state of constant readiness and able to reach the Balkans within days, not months. The readier Belgrade thinks Nato is to commit such troops, the greater is the prospect that they will not face combat. Mr Blair has said that "success is the only exit strategy I am prepared to consider". Further proof that Nato wills the means is required.

A HEALTHY OPTION

Widdecombe's medicine to cure Tory ailments

able to keep their heads when all about them are losing theirs. Ann Widdecombe, the Shadow Health Secretary, is the The question politicians must address exception. This week her voice cut through the Conservative din, pointing out that even if the Tories were to increase spending on the NHS year on year, as they now promise, that still would not be enough to meet future demands. All the political parties accept that spending on health is too low, but only Miss Widdecombe is seeking innovative ways to increase it.

The United Kingdom spends less of its domestic product on health than many other developed countries, but that is not the cardinal point. The NHS has provided good value for money in raising basic standards of health. Britain has fewer doctors per head than any other European country except Albania and Turkey, yet Britons live as long and, cancer apart, are as healthy as other Europeans.

The problem, as Ms Widdecombe has realised, is that the NHS cannot provide all the treatments that people expect. Although its budget has soared from £433 million in 1948 to £42 billion today, universal provision cannot be limitless in scope. As Professor John Spiers shows in a pamphlet published by the Institute of Economic Affairs today, services are rationed in an irrational way. A patient's access to expensive treatments often depends on where he or she lives. Only 15 per cent of patients with multiple sclerosis, for example, are prescribed the costly drug

Few members of the Shadow Cabinet seem interferon beta on the NHS. Many patients suffering from chronic kidney failure are

> The question politicians must address is whether higher public spending on health is the only answer. In agreement with Ms Widdecombe, Professor Spiers argues that no matter how much more is spent on the NHS, demand will never be met. Rationing, he writes, is "the fundamental pathology" of a nationalised system. Finite resources can never guarantee unlimited provision, only the right of access to a waiting list. Britain cannot rely solely on a planned health system in which bureaucrats decide what patients need: patients need more encouragement to look after themselves.

Ms Widdecombe is wise, therefore, to consider the restoration of tax relief on private medical insurance a "possibility". The Government was foolhardy to end this concession. In Britain, private health spending remains significantly lower than that of its European counterparts. Ministers should realise that if those who can afford to do so turn to private medicine, pressure on the public sector will be eased.

Furthermore, as the costs of medical treatments rise, politicians must seriously question whether lifestyle drugs should continue to be issued on the NHS, when overstretched budgets already deprive some patients of more critical - even life-saving - care. And unless politicians have the courage to debate this, the NHS will be unsafe in any party's hands.

TALE OF A TELETUBBY

Britain's peacekeeping programme

Anyone who can guarantee a mother a few moments of peace merits a national award. So harassed housewives all over Britain should welcome the nomination of Anne Wood as Woman of the Year. Ms Wood is the creator of the Teletubbies. She invented a failsafe way of persuading toddlers to sit down, shut up and suck their thumbs on the sofa. Not since the days of a dash of gin in the feeding bottle have British homes been more harmonious. Ms Wood may well have defused more squabbles than an iverage Nobel Peace Prize nominee.

From the moment that a giggling troupe of her fat-bottomed brainchildren first ropped up to "say haro". Tinky Winky, Dipsy. Laa-Laa and Po have stayed tuned nto the imaginations of pre-school tots. he Teletubbies have been saying "buy my" ever since. Their spin-offs have hirled more magically than the Teletubieland windmill and Ms Wood, from /orking-class roots, has risen to become he of the 500 richest people in Britain. But with soaring popularity came comlaints. Critics moaned that the pro-

ramme was too vacuous to be instructive.

nat Laa-Laa's favourite word was "nice".

gay scandal erupted around Tinky

Winky's handbag. And while, it was said, a voice trumpet bore all the sinister overtones of surveillance society, the big dopey bunny rabbits flopping around tussocks hinted at the grossness of genetic engineering. As deconstructionists enjoyed a field day, the programme gained cult status. Narcoleptic teenagers, normally intolerant of little siblings, sat placidly down beside them in front of the screen.

Maybe the enigmatic programme does have meanings other than those meant to amuse the very young. Or perhaps its success lies in the fact that it appeals to some atavistic instinct. Precious little happens in sunny Teletubbieland. When it does it happens twice: "Again, again, again," is the most memorable line of dialogue. Does such repetition accord with an ageless form of enjoyment? Primitive man, worn out by a hard day's hunting and gathering, hunkered down by the cave fire and soothed himself by staring into the flames. Today's children find similar solace in the patterns and rhythms which the Teletubbies provide, in the mollifying flicker of the television screen. And parents should find peace too, in the momentary tranquility it brings to their day.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London El 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

UK 'foot dragging' on refugee crisis

From the Director of Amnesty

Sir, While the arrival at Leeds-Bradford airport of 161 refugees from Kosovo made your front page (report, April 26), the reporting of their arrival should not mask some hard truths.

In the past five weeks more than 650,000 refugees have fled from Kosovo, the vast majority staying in the region. This organisation has made the strongest representations to the Macedonian authorities to abide by their international obligations towards refugees and not to shut their borders to new arrivals. However, Macedonia is hosting more than 150.000 refugees with 4.000 crossing the border in the past 24 hours. Albania, the poorest country in Europe, is hosting nearly 400,000. Germany, Norway and Turkey have

already taken thousands. The UK Government has a humanitarian obligation to share responsibility for the refugees: the admission of a small group from camps in Mace-donia amounts to shameful tokenism and does next to nothing to relieve the pressure on that country.

The UK Government is dragging its feet in evacuating refugees from the camps. At the same time it is pushing a Bill through Parliament which, as the Home Office admits, makes it harder for refugees to seek sanctuary. It is common knowledge that Kosovar refugees are being stripped of their documents on leaving their homeland which will make it impossible for those attempting to flee persecution to obtain the required visa to enter the UK. Those that do overcome the obstacles to arrive here face a life of poverty, waiting endlessly for a decision on their applications. Amnesty International believes the Immigration and Asylum Bill contravenes international law.

Against the background of the refugee crisis in Kosovo, Amnesty International calls on the Government urgently to review the provisions of this ill-conceived and unworkable piece of legislation and show genuine compassion to the Kosovars and others fleeing persecution.

Yours faithfully, DAVID BULL

Amnesty International UK, 99-119 Rosebery Avenue, ECIR 4RE. April 28.

Agricultural research

From the Director of The Save British Science Society

Sir, The cost of the inquiry into the (News in brief, April 26). There have also been reports of cuts of at least £12 million in the Ministry of Agriculture's investment into researching farming problems. This can only increase the chances of another expensive fiasco occurring in the future.

The ministry's research budget has already fallen in real terms by more than £50 million per annum since 1986, and further cuts would be a dangerous false economy.

Yours faithfully, PETER COTGREAVE, Director.

The Save British Science Society, 29-30 Tavistock Square, WCIH 9EZ. April 27.

Pain for gain From Mrs Alison Prior

Sir, We were so disappointed to find that the Flora London Marathon's automatic timing system closed at 7hr 38min, preventing those who took longer to finish from being mentioned in your list of results today. While we know the marathon is a race, there is a huge number of participants whose main aim is fundraising. These people are often at the back, walking (or limping) their way around the course to help their chosen cause.

My husband raised £7,500 for Round Table Children's Wish, a charity which arranges "wishes to come true" for terminally ill children. He completed the course in 7hr 42min, 44 sec. In the last three or four miles he passed countless participants, each determined to finish despite agonising cramps, blisters and muscle strain.

These last people to finish, such as the lady who took 30 hours walking to help multiple sclerosis sufferers, surely warrant every bit as much praise as those who finish in just a few hours and are in it for their individual

My heartfelt praise and admiration goes to these less fit but equally determined marathon runners.

Yours faithfully, ALISON PRIOR 45 Ironbridge Road, Broseley, Shropshire TF12 5AD. April 27.

Trafalgar Square plinth

From Miss Kusoom Vadgama

Sir. The empty plinth in Trafalgar Square (letters, April 19, 24) should have a statue of a woman, and that woman should be Queen Elizabeth 1.

Faithfully yours, KUSOOM VADGAMA, 808 Finchley Road, Temple Fortune, NWII 6X1.

Social factors in surviving cancer

against cancer. Studies published by MAFF have shown that consumption

of these dietary constituents is much

lower among the poor.

Is it not the case that much more attention should be directed to im-

proving the nutrition of the poor, to

reduce the impact of cancer and many

Merry Hill Road, Bushey WD2 1DU.

Sir, It wasn't just "American pessi-

mism" (Professor Gordon McVie's let-

ter, April 23) that Nigel Hawkes re-

ported on April 14. It was hard statistics about the relative failure of

40 years of cancer research, published

in one of the world's leading medical

Professor McVie may legitimately bang the drum on behalf of his char-ity, the Cancer Research Campaign.

by highlighting the British record in

developing treatments (always drugs)

as against the American. But this

cannot obscure the overall picture,

and his concluding statement "cancer

is being beaten" must be recognised

for what it is, namely wishful thinking rather than scientific fact.

a far more innovative research ag-

enda than we have at present - and I

am not talking about the aroma-therapy and relaxation therapy trials

with which Professor McVie sought to

reassure me when we corresponded

on this subject through your columns

last year (letters, May 15 and 26; June

If cancer is to be beaten it will need

other chronic diseases?

Society), 3 Haydon Hill House,

(Fellow, Royal Phamaceutical

From Lord Baldwin of Bewdley

Yours faithfully,

R. LEVIN

From Mrs Beverley Barton

Sir, We know one reason why richer people are more likely to survive can-cer (report, April 23). It is an expensive

disease to have. When I had cancer, half the chemotherapy and all the radiotherapy was given at a hospital 45 miles away. In one three-week period alone I travel-led, with my husband, over 1,400 miles for my treatment. We had to pay for car parking at the hospital as well as the diesel fuel to get us there. The whole treatment period lasted ten months. We had to pay social ser-vices for home help. I have had to change my eating patterns, using now more expensive foods.

Fortunately my husband has an un-derstanding employer. He was able to have time off work to take me for appointments, care for me while I was ill at home, and care for our three children, then aged three, six and eight.
We were blessed by members of our

Christian community with some meals and childcare. And we were blessed again with the offer of extra financial support from our church leaders, if we needed it. No NHS employee ever asked us if the cost of travel was a problem.

Even though we have a low income we know that many people do not have the resources and support we

Yours faithfully, BEVERLEY BARTON, St Stephen's Vicarage, 60 Broadgate, Preston PRI 8DU. st.barton@ukonline.co.uk April 23.

From Mr Ronald Levin

Sir, Three of the principal factors which distinguish the affluent from the poor are education, housing and That more than 50 per cent of can-

cers are diet-related is now widely accepted, as is the finding that fruit, vegetables and some multivitamins

Racism as an instinct

Concealed firearms

Yours faithfully, BALDWIN of BEWDLEY.

House of Lords.

April 26.

From Mr Graham Lyons

Sir, William Rees-Mogg (article,"Hatred past and future", April 26) confuses nature and nurture when he suggests that racism is a basic human It may be true that the capacity for aggressive behaviour arises from our

instinctive and natural needs, such as Before disparaging a policy it is helpful — to avoid pratfalls if nothing to procreate and for survival. Nonetheless, I doubt whether many would subscribe to the alarming view that mankind may carry a gene that is results of such a policy are. hostile to those that Lord Rees-Mogg

refers to in his article as strangers. the Danish stand on behalf of the Jews in the Second World War, the decision to set up the United Nations, nor from our present attempted defence of the Kosovo Albanians.

While I would hesitate to call such decisions natural, they demonstrate social progress and a capacity to strive for a better world. Intermarriage and cross-cultural friendships also give the lie to the idea of basic hostility to the stranger.

A study of love, hate, envy, perversion and socialisation processes would be a more intelligent approach to such a complicated subject.

Yours faithfully, GRAHAM LYONS, 23 Ormonde Gate, SW3 4EX. April 26.

Church maintenance

From Dr D. A. Roche

Sir. The local authority should take responsibility for our ancient churthes (Mr John Lawrenson's letter. April 22). As Christians we do not need these buildings, which are often highly unsuitable for modern worship: but, whatever our faith, or lack of it, we esteem them as a vital part of our culture.

An increasingly impossible burden is being placed on a diminishing number, who, if rightly practising our faith, should be giving to many other causes. Something has to crack soon. and it is time to realise that these buildings are a public responsibility. Contrary to the general fall in

personal giving by some 30 per cent in the five years since the start of the National Lottery (report, April 22). Anglicans have been giving more, but there has to be a limit to this increasing demand.

Yours faithfully. DENIS ROCHE, 44 Corbett Avenue Droitwich WR9 7BE. April 24.

Branson's business

Sir, Yesterday you published a per-

which might have been seen as an attempt to add new colour to the history of the BA/Virgin Dirty Tricks affair. Let me quote from the agreed statement in open court of January 11, 1993, which settled Virgin's dirty tricks libel case against BA and resulted in £610,000 of damages being paid to both Virgin Atlantic and myself.

From Lieutenant-Commander

D. L. Thomas, RN (retd)

Sir. Commenting on the Denver kill-ings, your second leader on April 22 refers in disapproving tones to the passage of a Bill in the Colorado state legislature which would permit the carrying of concealed firearms by persons of good character.

else - to discover what the practical

To date, some 31 states of the union have enacted concealed-carry legissuch state the result has been entirely beneficial with significant falls in almost all types of violent crime, with the greatest reductions occurring in the more densely populated states. The widely predicted mayhem on the streets with trivial arguments settled by gunfire simply did not happen.

By any reckoning the policy must be counted a success. With violent assaults in the Metropolitan Police area approaching the 40,000-a-year mark (report, April 24), we have no cause to feel complacent here.

Yours sincerely DAVID THOMAS, Akroyd Cottage, Abbey Park Lane, Littleworth Common, Burnham, Buckinghamshire SLI SPJ. April 23.

Cathedral dispute

From Mr Rodney E. Jones

Sir, I believe the headline on your report about the dispute involving volunteers at Salisbury Cathedral. Volunteers kicked out of cloisters" (April 23), belied the reporting of the disagreement which treated both sides fairly. The temptation to look on this as another example of the "Westminster Abbey syndrome" was rightly

Because the Church is primarily concerned with people, disputes will happen. But the most important aspect is the attitude of the protagonists with a will on both sides for differences to be settled quickly. With the Dean's reported ability to listen and the evident courtesy of the helpers who have been offered alternative opportunities of serving the cathedral. it is to be hoped that this dispute will soon be resolved.

R. E. JONES, 15 South Drive, Timperley, Altrincham, Cheshire WAIS 6QJ. rodjones.timperley@tesco.net April 26.

From Mr Richard Branson

sonal letter from Brian Basham

British Airways and Lord King now accept unreservedly that the allegations which they made against the good faith and integ-rity of Richard Branson and Virgin Atlantic are wholly untrue. They further accept that Richard Branson and Virgin had reasonactivities of a number of British Airways employees, and of Mr Basham and their potential effect on the business interests and reputation of Virgin Atlantic and Richard Branson.

able grounds for serious concern about the

The above clear-cut statement was agreed by BA. That says it all!

Yours sincerely RICHARD BRANSON, Virgin Management Ltd 120 Campden Hill Road, W8 7AR.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number 0171-782 5046. e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

Risks and rewards of devolution

From Mr R. A. Christie

Sir, As a Scot thankful for English benevolence in accommodating me in London for many years, I appreciated Simon Jenkins's fair assessment of devolution ("Cross with St George", April 23). It is a political exercise which presents both risk and reward, but at least people living in Scotland have regained the power to determine their future.

The position the Scots are abandoning is exactly where the single currency is leading England: loss of liscal control, migration of corporate power to the Continent, and young, executive talent with it; daily intervention by bureaucrats from a different culture, based in a different land; loss of national democracy and self-deter-mination; transfer of home resources to compensate for the spendthrift past and poor productivity of other economies; the slow erosion of national confidence.

So, wake up England! Celebrate the Scots' new freedom and rejoice in the strength of your own position. Your pension schemes are in sensible shape; you have the most robust democracy in Europe, arguably in the world. You have the world's fifth largest economy; productivity and enterprise are improving rapidly; and you are in a great position to take full advantage of the new information technology era.

Don't throw this away, don't take the lazy option and regard the single currency as inevitable. To avoid your grandchildren suffering the same plight as generations of Scots, you should recognise the risks of the singie currency and follow the Scottish example - go for self-determination.

Yours faithfully, ROBIN CHRISTIE. Muirfield. 211 Piccadilly, WIV 9LD.

From Mr A. W. Glanville

Sir, The suggestion is being put about that the English Parliament should be located in York. Surely one Shambles in that fair city is enough?

Yours sceptically, A. W. GLANVILLE, Springwood, Courts Hill Road. Haslemere, Surrey GU27 2NG. St George's Day.

Gold teeth 'miracle'

From Mr Daniel J. Hill

Sir, Mr Edgar Andrews (letter, April lievers. First, he implies that they are not evangelicals. However, the statement of faith of the Toronto Airport Christian Fellowship, the church cited by The Times as the first place to witness this new phenomenon (report, April 17), says: "We believe that the Bible is God's Word to the world, speaking to us with authority and

without error." This means that those at the church are evangelicals by Mr Andrews's own definition. One may be an evangelical whatever the colour of one's fillings.

Second, Mr Andrews accuses them of "way-out credulity". Why is it more credulous to believe in the change of fillings from amalgam to gold than it is to believe in the change of water to wine at the wedding in Cana? Most traditional Christians, in-

cluding, one presumes. Mr Andrews, are happy to believe the laner. Yours faithfully, DANIEL HILL, Department of Theology and Religious Studies. King's College London, WC2R 2LS.

From Mr Mike Lawlor

daniel.hill@kcl.ac.uk

Sir, As an Anglican whose gold fillings were expertly put in by my dentist, I was grateful for the defini-tion of evangelicals by the Editor of the Evangelical Times.

He seems to have omitted a further

attribute which many seem also to possess - namely an uncanny ability to feel that they can cast the first stone. Yours sincerely, MIKE LAWLOR. Cloonbeg, 6 Dells Close.

Teddington, Middlesex TWII OLD. April 26.

The royal lunch

From Mr Dean. R. Pope

Sir, I am staggered to hear that, after careful examination of Van Dyck's painting The Five Eldest Children of Charles I. an expert has identified the item shown adjacent to the bowl in the top right of the picture as a pawpaw

(report, April 29). Anyone living west of the River Tamar will be able to identify the item as a Cornish pasty and not an exotic

Clearly, the affinity between Cornwall and the Royal Family did not start with the current Prince Charles but originated when King Charles had these pasties delivered to the

Yours sincerely, D. R. POPE, Myansome, 8 Doubletrees, St. Blazey, Par, Cornwall PL24 2LE.

Forthcoming



COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE April 29: The Queen, Sovereign of

the Order, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, was present this morning at a Service of the Royal Victorian Order held in St George's Chapel, Windsor Castle. Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, Grand Master of the Order, The Duke and Duchess of

Gloucester, The Duke of Kent, Princess Alexandra, the Hon Lady Ogihy, and the Hon Sir Angus Ogilvy were also present. Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received by the Dean of Windsor (the Right Rever-

end David Conner) and the Chap-lain of the Order (the Reverend John Robson). Detachments of Her Majesty's Body Guard of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms, The Queen's Body Guard of the Yeomen of the Guard and the Military

Knights of Windsor were on duty in St George's Chapel. Lady Dugdale, the Rt Hon Sir Robin Janvrin and Lieutenant Colonel Sir Guy Acland, Bt. were

in attendance.
Afterwards The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh gave a Recep-tion at Windsor Castle for those

who attended the Service. The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh were represented by General Sir Edward Jones, Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, at the Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Admiral Sir Richard Thomas. formerly Gentleman Usher to the Black Rod, which was held at Westminster Abbey, London, to-

The Lord Faringdon, Lord in Waiting, was present at Royal Air Force Northolt, London, this morning upon the Departure of The Governor-General of Australia and Lady Deane, and bade fare-well to The Excellencies on behalf

ST JAMES'S PALACE April 29: The Prince of Wales this morning visited Sherborne Primary School, Simons Road, Sherborne. Dorset.

His Royal Highness later visited Sherborne School for Girls, Brad-ford Road, Sherborne, Dorset. The Prince of Wales, Duke of Cornwall, this afternoon visited the Poundbury development at

His Royal Highness, President. The Prince of Wales Business Leaders Forum, this evening gave a dinner for interested companies. **BUCKINGHAM PALACE** April 29: The Duke of York.

President, this evening attended a cocktail party for the Association of Leading Visitor Attractions at the Natural History Museum, London

April 29: The Princess Royal this morning visited General Shaker Al-Sayed at Governorate Office,

Her Royal Highness afterwards visited an Adult Literacy Training

Village.
The Princess Royal this afternoon visited an Adult Literacy Training Project (ALTP) at El-Ga-

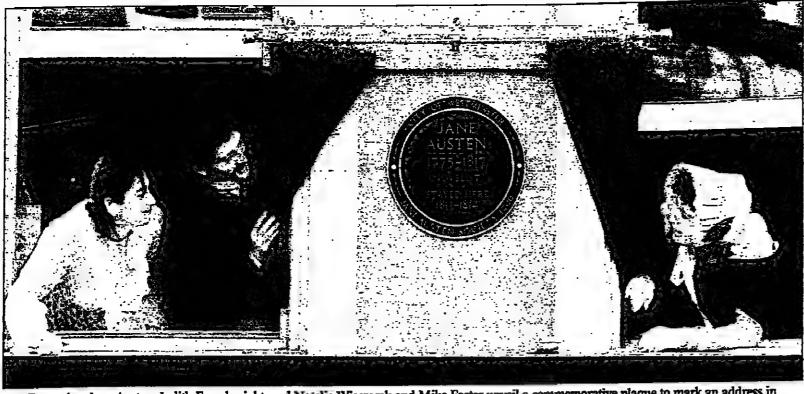
Her Royal Highness subsequently visited the Tomb of Queen Nefertari at the Valley of the Queens, West Bank The Princess Royal later visited

the Temple of Hatshepsut. Her Royal Highness afterwards visited Karnak Temple. The Princess Royal this evening

attended a Dinner given by The British Ambassador to Egypt (Sir David Blatherwick) at Residence.

Professor Susan Strange

A celebration of the life of Professor Susan Strange will be held on Wednesday, May 12, 1999, at 5.30pm in the Senior Dining Room at the London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London WC2A 2AE. All friends and colleagues are welcome to attend. RSVP: 0171-955 7562



Dressed as Jane Austen, Judith French, right, and Natalia Wieczorek and Mike Foster unveil a commemorative plaque to mark an address in Covent Garden, London, where the novelist stayed from 1813 to 1814

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Federation of London Youth Clubs, will visit the Bernard Sunley Outdoor Educational and Activity Centre, Hindleap Warren, East Sussex, at 11.00.

The Duke of York, Honorary Air Commodore, will attend a dinner night at RAF Lossiemouth, at 7.30. For more details about the Royal Family visit the royal website at:

Birthdays today

The King of Sweden celebrates his 53rd birthday today. Sir James Adams, former diplo-mat. 67; Mr Peier Ahrends, archilect, 66; Dr G.E. Aylmer, FBA. former Master. St Peter's College. Oxford, 73; Mrs Janey Buchan, former MEP, 73; Mrs Barbara Calvert, QC, 73; His Honour Sir Robin David, QC, 77; Mr Dickie Davies, sports commentator. 66; Lord Diamond. 92; Mr Leslie Grantham, actor. 53; Mr G.M. Guthrie, former chief executive, Mecca Leisure, 58; Mr Tony Harrison, poet, 62: Mr Alfred Lomas, MEP, 71; Lord McIntosh of Haringey, 66; Mr Keith Povey, former Chief Constable, Leicestershire, 56; Lord Sanderson of Bowden, óó.

Dinners

Chief Police Officers
The Secretary of State for the
Home Department and Sir Richard Wilson were the principal guests at the annual dinner of Chief Police Officers held on Wednesday at Guildhall. Sir John Hoddinott, Chief Constable of Hampshire, presided.

Army Board General Sir Roger Wheeler. Chief of the General Staff, was the host at a dinner given last night by the Army Board at the Royal Hospital Chelsea to meet Lieutenant-General Adan Abdullahi, Army Commander of Kenya. Among those

present were: present were:

The High Commissioner for Kenya, Lady Wheeler, Mrs Abdullahi, Mr Roger Jackling, General Sir Alea and Lady Harley, Concral Sir Frank and Lady Kirson, General Sir Jeremy and Lady Macherie, Lieutenant-General Sir Scott and Lady Grant. Major-General and Mrs Kevin O'Conoghue, Major-General and Mrs Nahip Trousdell. Mr and Mrs Philip Trousdell. Mr and Mrs Philip Lee Colonel Tim Merrin, Colonel and Mrs Geoffrey Okanga, Lieutenant-Colonel George Maingi, Lieutenant-Colonel George Maingi, Lieutenant-Colonel George Maingi, Lieutenant-Colonel and Mrs Richard Osana and Captain Hayley Thompson.

Defence and Security Forum Mr Nick Prest was the gues speaker at a dinner of the Defence and Security Forum held last night

at the Garrick Club. Shipwrights' Company
Mr Peter Tudball, Prime Warden and the Earl of Inchcape, and their ladies, received the guests at the annual installation dinner of the Shipwrights' Company held last night at Guildhall. Sir Keith Stuart, Chairman of Associated British Ports Holdings, was the principal guest and speaker.

Quakers show excess in death if not in life

By Norman Hammond, archaeology correspondent

A QUAKER burial ground in Kingston upon Thames has shown that the plain dress and sober living of the Society of Friends was not always reflected in their funerals. Coffins with viewing windows and elaborate decoration were used, and some families built substantial vaults to house them through

eternity. The abandoned burial ground, now occupied by new houses, was excavated to shed light on Quaker funeral rites and undertaking practices, Lucy Kirk reports in London Archaeologist. All skeletons were assessed for age and sex by forensic anthropologists, while at the same time, historical records were searched to identify who they were. "The Quakers were meticulous record keepers, and documentary sources relating to the burial ground itself and some of the individuals within it were available for study," Ms Kirk says.

Burials took place from as early as 1664, not long after George Fox founded the Society of Friends during the upheavals of the Civil War and Commonwealth. They were dubbed "quakers" by Justice Bennet of Derby because Fox "bid them Tremble at the Word of the Lord", and

The Rev David James, Team Rector, Sid Valley (Exeter): to be

also Prebendary of Exeter Cathe-

The Rev Harold Loxley, Vicar, Sheffield St Catherine Richmond

Road (Sheffield): to be Dean of the

Chapter of our Lady and St Peter

The Rev David Mewis. Rector.

Bolton by Bowland w Grindleton (Bradford): to be also Rural Dean

The Rev Mavis Nevill, Curate, Mount Pelion Christ Church (Wakefield): to be NSM, Mixenden

The Rev Andrew Parsons, Rector,

Wroxham w. Hoveton St John w. Hoveton St Peter and Belaugh

(Norwich): to be also Rural Dean

of St Benet at Waxham and

The Rev John Rawlings, Vicar, Tavistock and Gulworthy, and Rural Dean of Tavistock (Exeter):

to be also Prebendary of Exeter

Tunstead (same diocese).

Cathedral (same diocese).

Holy Nativity (same diocese).

dral (same diocese).

(same diocese).

of Bowland.

Samuel Butler noted in Hudibeen inside the coffin but perhaps was removed by the body-snatchers active during the 18th century," Ms Kirk bras that "Quakers (that, like to lanterns, bear their light within them) will not swear". Francis Holding, who died surmises

in 1696, was worldly enough to have his initials and date of death spelt out on his coffin lid in large brass studs, however, and even infant coffins had generous stud-Although one of the Kingston skeletons also suffered from a treponemal disease.

there has been no suggestion that any other than local Ouakers were buried there. The use of a heart-shaped decoration seems likely to be an unremarkable English sentiment rather than evidence of exotic contacts. Thomas Barnard built a large brick vault in 1744, which held three generations of his family; its construction defied explicit orders that it

was not to intrude upon

earlier interments, and the

identified as venereal syphilis,

Rules of Discipline which frown upon ostentation. Prominent members of the Barnard family included John, Lord Mayor of London in 1737, while the last interment in the vault, of Anna Barnard, proved to be a coffin empty of all but a blonde wig. This suggests that she had

The Rev Richard Sigrist, Episcopal Church Minister, Redding (Califor-

nia, USA): to be Priest-in-Charge.

The Rev Edward Townshend,

Rector, Lichfield St Chad (Li-

chfield): to be part-time Assistant

Curate (to be known as Assistant

Priesti, Hamstead St Paul (Bir-

mingham). Retirements and resignations The Right Rev Michael Gear,

Bishop of Doncaster (Sheffield) to

retire November 30. The Rev Judy Lynas, NSM, Long-fleet St Mary (Salisbury) resigned

Canon Geoffrey Mills, Rector, Whiston (Sheffield) to retire Sep-

The Rev John Morgan, Rector, Hullavington, Norton and Stanton

St Quinton (Bristol) to retire July

The Rev Marcus Seccombe, Rec-tor, Rossington St Michael (Shef-field) to retire September 30.

February 5.

Church news

Another coffin contained four whole walnuts in their shells, one in the deceased's mouth. While their precise symbolism is uncertain, in folk medicine walnuts are associated with madness, and the deceased may have been suffering from mental illness, Ms Kirk suggests. Some coffins had

windows let into their lids, through which the face of the corpse could be seen, and many were comfortably upholstered with mattress and pillow. Dissension from Anglican practice could be seen in the orientation of the burials: only 10 per cent were aligned with the head to the west, so that the deceased would rise facing east towards Jerusalem at the Resurrection, while 55 per cent had the head to the

In spite of the proclaimed ideals of the Quakers, many of those buried at Kingston seem to have deviated from them in death, by their own or their families' desire, while the pathological evidence suggests that while bodily excess was uncommon, it was not unknown.

Anniversaries

DEATHS: James Montgomery,

founder of the opera company bearing his name, Paris, 1889; A.E.

Housman, poet, Cambridge, 1936;

Adolf Hitler, German dictator, Berlin, 1945; Sir Almroth Wright,

bacteriologist, Farnham Common, Buckinghamshire, 1947.

George Washington was inaugu-

rated as the 1st American Presi-

The Republic of Hawaii ceded

The first Land Rover was exhibited

it the Amsterdam Motor Show,

Saigon fell to the Vietcong and was

renamed Ho Chi Minh City, 1975.

itself to the United States, 1900.

dent. 1789.

Admiral Sir Richard Thomas The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh were represented by General Sir Edward Jones. Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, at a Requiem Mass for Admiral Sir Richard Thomas, former Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod, held esterday in Westminster Cathe-

The Right Rev Richard Yea, Abbot of Downside, was the principal celebrant. The concelebrants were the Right Rev Francis Walmsley, Roman Catholic Bishop of the Forces, Mgr Tom Burns. Principal Roman Catholic Chap-lain, Royal Navy, Father Tom Grufferty, Father Gerald Flood

and Father Terry Wilson. Mr Dominic Thomas, son, and Admiral Sir Hugo White read the lessons. Admiral of the Fleet Sir Julian Oswald gave an address. Sir Richard's orders and decora-

tions were borne in procession to the sanctuary by Captain Peter Kim, RN, and Lieutenant-Com-mander Gerald Craig McFeely. RN. The standard of the HMS Gambia Association was carried by Mr Frank Farmer, RN.

The Lord Chancellor was repre-sented by Miss Jenny Rowe and the Speaker by Mr Nicolas Bevan. Admiral Sir Michael Boyce, First Sea Lord, was present and the Chairman of the Military Committee of Nato was represented by Vice-Admiral Paul Haddocks. Among others present were:

Lady Thomas (widow), Mr George Thomas (son), Miss Harrier Thomas and Miss Jenninus Thomas (drughters), Mr and Mrs Guy Tillyard and Mr and Mrs Philip Owen (sons-in-law and daughters). Mrs Dominie Thomas (daughters-in-law) and other members of the lamily. Representatives of the Haberdushers' Association, the Stroke Association and the HMS Gambia Association, and many the HMS Gambia Association, and many other briends and furmer colleagues.

Bradfield College

The summer term at Bradfield BIRTHS: St Jean Baptiste de la College began on April 14. Brad-field Day is on Sunday, May 23, when there will be a Gaudy for Salle, founder of the Christian Brothers, Rheims, 1651; Queen Mary II, reigned with King Wil-liam III 1689-94, London, 1662; Old Bradfieldians (1955-1964), and a Service of Thanksgiving for the John Lubbock, 1st Baron Avebury, banker and scientist, London, 1834; life of Mr Alan Young, formerly Second Master and Housemast Hungary, 1870; Jaroslav Hasek, novelist, Prague, 1883. at which the Address will be given by Mr Michael Hoban. The new first year boarding house, which poet and hymn writer, Sheffield, 1854; Edouard Manet, painter, Paris, 1883; Carl Rosa, violinist and will open in September 1999, has been named Faulkner's, in memory of Sir Eric Faulkner, Warden of Bradfield (1965-1983).

Service dinner

Headquarters Logistics Command

Wing Commander J.A.J. Sneller presided at a ladies guest night dinner beld last night at Headq ters Logistics Command, RAF Brampton to mark the retirement from the service of Air Marshal Sir Colin Terry, Air Officer Command-ing in-Chief, Air Member for Logis tics and Chief Engineer (RAF), Air Marshal Malcolm Pledger, Sir Colin's successor, also spoke.

Requiem

Mass

and Miss A.J. Tracey Mr M. Griffiths and Miss C.A. Fidler

Fidler, of Pyrford.

Mr M.E. McEwen-King and Miss A.J. Duncau Smith The engagement is announced between Magnus, youngest son of Mr and Mrs Robin McEwen-King, of Nemphiar, Lanarkshire. and Amanda, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Duncan Smith,

marriages

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Mr G.J. Burroughs and Miss A.C. Cheetham The engagement is announced between Gregor, son of Mr and Mrs Peter Burroughs, of Felpham, West Sussex and Anne vounger daughter of Mr and Mrs David Cheetham of Redbourn

Mr N.S. Cameron and Miss C.C. Hill

Herdordshire.

The engagement is announced between Nick, elder son of Mr and Mrs Peter Cameron, of Brockenhurst, Hampshire, and Caraline, daughter of Mr Antony Hill, of Ide Hill, Kent, and of Mrs Pamela Read, of Speldhurst, Kent.

Mr N.C. Esch and Miss S.L. Howard The engagement is announced between Nicholas Charles, son of

Mr Vivian Esch and Mrs Janie Foulkes, and Sarah Louise. daughter of Group Captain and Mrs Richard Howard. Mr P.R. Evans and Miss C.A. Mortimer

A service of blessing will take place at St Peter's Church, Codsall Wood, Staffordshire, on May 29, after the marriage in Douglas, Isle of Man, on April 30, of Mr Peter Ramon Evans, only son of Mrs June H. Evans and the late Mr James H. Evans, of Codsall, Staffordshire, to Miss Carole Anne Mortimer, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Eric Faulkner, of Stanford, Bedfordshire. A reception will be held at

"Streamside", in the village of Laxey, Isle of Man. Mr B.L. Foakes

The engagement is announced between Brian, son of Mr and Mrs Leslie Foakes, of Clevedon, Somerset and Alexe, daughter of Mr and Mrs Roger Tracey, of Hinckley,

The marriage will take place in Pyriord, Surrey, on June 19, 1999, of Matthew, son of Dr and Mrs Andrew Griffiths, of Chiswick, London, and Charlotte Anne, daughter of Mr and Mrs Ian

Mr H. Glynn and Miss E.J. Crosson The engagement is announced between Howard, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Glynn, of Monkstaton Whidey Bay, and Elizabeth, daughte of Dr and Mrs Richard Crosson, of Islington, London,

Mr D.M.J. Lewis and Miss F.G. Lewis The engagement is announced between David elder son of Mr and Mrs Leo Lewis, and Fions, second daughter of Mr and Mrs

Clive Lewis. Mr T.B.R. Moffatt and Miss C.A. Macphail The engagement is announced

between Thomas, son of Mr and Mrs Benjamin Moffatt, of Dingle, Leicestershire, and Catriona, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Macphail, of Harpenden Hertfordshire.

and Miss S.A. Christie The engagement is announced between Anurag, son of Mr and Mrs Tuhin Verma, of Vienna, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Robert Christie, of Fishbourne West Sussex

Marriages Mf N.J.E. Cook and Miss H.K.H. Baird

The marriage took place on Saturday, April 24, 1999, at the Church of St Mary, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk, between Mr cholas Cook, son of Mr and Mrs Derek Cook, of Over Alderley, Cheshire, and Miss Helen Baird, elder daughter of Mr Guy Baird, of Compton Abdale, Gloucestershire and Mrs Juliet Baird, of Nayland Suffolk. The Revd Canon David Stranack officiated, assisted by the Revd David Finch.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Miss Pippa Baird, Miss Camilla Edmondson, Miss Poppy Wilson and Miss Alexandra Mears. Mr Mark Foulds was bes A reception was held at Highan

Lodge and the honeymoon is being spent to the British Virgin Islands. Mr A.C. Scott

and Miss D.L. Brocklebank The marriage took place on Saturday, April 10, 1999, at the Church of St Mary, Stoke-by-Nayland, Suffolk, of Mr Anthony Scott, son of Mrs Peter Dimmod and the late Mr James Scott, of Windlesham Park, Surrey, to Miss Diana Brocklebank, only daughte of Mr and Mrs Charles Brocklebank,

Latest wills

Professor Sir Alan Hodekin, OM. FRS, Master of Trinity College, Cambridge, 1978-84, of Cambridge, left estate valued at £470,156 net. Baroness Hunt of Fawley, of Fawley Green, Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire, left estate valued at £583,608 net. The 17th Earl of Devon, of Powderham, Exeter, Devon, left estate valued at £70,000 net. Sir David Woodbine Parish, master builder, former chairman City and Guilds of London Institute,

chairman of Bovis 1959-66, of Pullborough, West Sussex, left estate valued at £517,772 net. He left £500 to the PCC of St Botolphis. Hardham, West Sussex £200 each to Friends of St Thomas' Hospital. Friends of King Edward VII Hospital, Florence Nightingale Museum Trust and Musicians' Benevolent Fund.

Sir John Henry Bremridge, chairman, John Swire and Sons HK, of

estate valued at £23,328 net. Louis Freedman, of Taplow, Maidenhead, Berkshire, left estate valused at £12,379,684 net. He left £500,000 to the Louis Press Charitable Settlement.

Winifred Roma Jeffery, of Beaconsfield, Bucks, left estate valued at £2,234,005 net. John Leslie Bolam, of Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, left estate valued at El,492,220 net. Denis Eley Colquhoun Haves, of

Milford-on-Sea, Lymington, Hampshire, left estate valued at Edith Marion Grant, of Buckland Village, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury,

Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £994,057 net. Roderick Harries, of Icomb. Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, left es-tate valued at £1,438,450 net. He ich £1,000 to Imperial Cancer Research Runds \$500 m both the PCC of feomb Church and found Village Institute. Lilian Frances Jones, of Kegworth.

Derby, left estate valued at £1,586,503 net. She left E20,000 to both the Patiest Ameniny Fund and Kegworth Parsh Church; £10,000 to Christ Church; \$window £2,000 each to Gardeners' Royal Benevolent Society, RNIB, and Action Research for the Crippled Child. Elizabeth Ramsay Law, of Pucking-

ton, Ilminster, Somerset, left estate valued at £1,273,162 net. She left Es,000 to the Parish Church of St Andrew, Puckington, Ilminster: 1500 to both ISSPCA and Imperial Cancer Research Fund. Isobel Mack, of Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex, left estate

valued at El.153,424 net.
She left shares in her residuary esset between the MS Society and Barnardo's.
Laura Kathleen Richardson, of Wollaton Park, Nottingham, left estate valued at £1,886,229 net. She left £1,000 each to the PDSA and the £1. Thomas Smith Scott, of Wilmskow.

Cheshire, left estate valued at £1,082,475 net. Charles Pembroke Stration, of Tyringham, Newport Pagnell, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,192,619 net. Cedric Stafford Taylor, of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, left estate valued at £1,940,322 net. Jeffrey Wilkinson, of Wychbold. Droitwich, Worcestershire, left &

tate valued at El.270.257 net.

IN MEMORIAM

MORRISON - In loving memory of a devoted husband and father

nuspand and tather Thomas Edward who died 30th April 1994 aged 52 years. Tom God Bless, love Mags, Andrew and Peter Mostrison.

SELLERS - Olwyn Patricla Our angel. Today and every day everlasting love Bill, Paul, Peter, Suzy and families.

GASL Happy Bhrthstay, I wish could be with you. Love, 2.

BIRTHDAYS

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maker.	Psalm	95.6	(AV).

BARLEY - On April 27th, to Eleanor (née Slocock) and Angus, a daughter, Honor Catherine Jeni.

BIRTHS

to Yvenne (née Mammon) and Brian, a daughter, Rachael Dina, a sister to Charlotte, Jasmine and

GREEN - On April 22nd 1999

HARRIS - On April 26th 1999 ma (née Fulford-Dobson) and James, a son HOVENDEN - On April 26th

at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington, to Victoria Inée Bent) and Charles, a daughter, Henrietta Victoria, a sister for India

LEATHAM - On Monday April 26th, to Georgina (née Mounsey) and Richard, a son, Ludovic O'SULLIVAN - On April 23rd

at The Portland Hospital, to Bernadette and Gerard a daughter, Kitty May, PATTESON - On Sunday 4th April 1999, to Joanna (née Crawford) and Mark, 2 son, Henry James, a brother for Charlie and

PHILLIPS - Anne (née Chaplin) and Keith are proud to announce the birth of a son, James, on 27th April 1999.

GOLDEN BIRTHS ANNIVERSARIES SOSA - On April 28th at Th Portland Hospital, to Maribel and Alejandro, a son, Diego, a brother for Maribel and Regina. PELEREAU - On 30th April 1949 at St Michael's, Chester Square, London, Peter married Rosemary. Now at Crockham Hill, Kent.

TAYLOR/PELHAM - On 20th April at Queem Marys Hospital, Julie and Gerrard are proud to announce the birth of their son, Luke Nathan Taylor.

TURNER - On April 28th at The Portland Hospital, to Franca and James, a son, William Frederick, a brother for Michael. WALKER-STAVROU - On 28th April 1999 at the Mitera Clinic, Limassol, to Miranda-Jane and

Stavros, a son, Michael Antony Walker Stavro April to Kate and James, two sons, Thomas Wellesley and Michael Alexander.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

CORNEY:COX - On 30th April 1949 at R.M.A. Chapel, Sandhurst, John married Jean (Jane). Now living in Eastbury, RG17 7JL.

CURRALL:PAGANACCI -

Doris and Bernard 30th

April 1949. Much love on this happy day from Richard and Christine.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

DEATHS

BROCKBANK - Dr John

Keith, formerly
Consultant Psychlatrist in
Oxford, died suddenly

after a brief illness in the John Radcliffe Hospital o

wisdom and love will be

greatly missed by all his family and friends. A

funeral service will be held at St Mary and St Nicholas Church, Littlemore, Oxford on May 6th at 2.00pm. No flowers.

Abingdon, Oxon. Tel 01235 528293.

Donations to the

DEATHS

BUTCHER - Jenny (née
Dodd). In loving memory
of Jenny, much loved wife
of Philip and much loved
mother of Lucy and John,
who died during the
weekend of Saturday and
Sunday April 24th/25th
1999. Her Inneral service
will take place in Norwich
Cathedral on Wednesday
May 5th at 1.30 pm. All her
many friends are warmly
invited. Family flowers
only please, but donations
if desired for Priscille
Bascon Lodge Support
Group may be sent to Jerry
March, Independent
Funeral Services, 28 Holt
Road, Horsford, Norwich 27th April, aged 56. He had re-found life and happiness in Cumbria with his wife Sue. His wit.

Road, Horsford, No. NR10 3DD.

DEGENHARDT - On 28th
April peacefully at home
in Devon, Thomas
Bradford, aged 76 years,
much loved and missed by
his wife Eileen and all the
family Functal section -: Exeter and Devon
Cramatorium (St Peters
Chapel) on Wednesday 5th
May at 12 noon. Enquiries
to Palmers Funeral Service tel 01395 442252.

ELMSERST - Roger Thomas, on 27th April 1999 at Charing Cross Hospital, aged 63. Adored husband of Calia, father of Rechends. Tom, Claudia and Sophie, grandfather of Ruby and Joseph and much awed drouper of Jane Mackie. Private family funeral. Memorial service at St Johns Church, Ladbroke Grove, Will on

GALLOF - David Barrington in his 65th year. Devoted and adored husband of Rena and loving father of Katle and Debbie, died pescefully in hospital on Monday April 26th after a hrave and courageous fight. Funeral service at St Stephens Church, Clanfield, Oxon on Wednesday May 5th at 3.00pm. All enquiries to E Taylor and Son. Tel 01993 842421. HARDE - Bay (Evelyn Chrystal) died pescafully at home in Coruwali on 28th April. Widow of John, very much loved by Anne, Judy, Richard and their families. Private account

families. Private cremation in Truro on Tuesday, 4th May, followed by a Thenksgiving Service, to include friends, at Gerrans Church, Portscatho, at 12 noon that day. on 24th April, after years fighting cancer, endured with his usual humour an stoicism. Thenks to famil-friends and medics for support throughout.
Donations, if desired, to any hospice or wildlife/ animal welfare organisation.

To place death notices, acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

William, Priest, on 28th April peacefully at home. Beloved husband of fill, father of Ashley and Andrew and steplather to Eruce, Rupert and Sibyl. Funeral at 2.00pm on Treaday, 4th May, at St John's Church, Frome, Somerset, followed by interment at St Katharine's, East Woodlands, Donations to Katharines, East Woodlands, Donations to the Dorothy House Hospice may be sent to W. Adlam & Son Limited, 68 Locks Hill, Frome, Somerset, BA11 1NH. (01373 452100).

LYONS - Peacafully at the Victoria Infirmary, Glasgow, on 25th April 1999, in his 94th year, Lewis Lyona formerly of H. Lyona and Son, 61 West Regent Street, Glasgow. The funeral has taken

MORLEY - Howard, on April 27th at home in Guildford. Loving husband of Gretta and devoted father to and devoted father to James, Timothy and Gites. He will be sadily missed by all their families. Private cremetion. Thankegiving Service, Christchurch, Waterden Road, Guildford on Wednesday 5th May at 1.30pm. Family flowers only. If desired, a donation for Cancer Research or Barnardo's may be sent c/o Robert Ayling Funeral Services, 25 South Road, Guildford, Surrey GU2 6NY. Tel 01483 567333. MORRIS - Robert William suddenly at home on 27th April 1999 aged 71 after coping bravely with Motor Neurons Disesse. Dearly loved husband, father, grandfather and brother. Private cremation. grandfather and brother. Private cremation. Thankegiving Service All Seints Church, Sutton Courtenay, Tuesday 4th May 1999 at 2.30 pm, No flowers. Donations if desired to MND Association, PO Box 246, Northampton NN1 2PR. He will be greatly missed.

MILLER - Audrey Evelyn (née Webb), peecefully, on 25th April, deeply loved widow of the late Dr. Christopher (Dooley) Muller. Beloved mother of Sers. Christopher and Helen and adored grandmother and great-grandmother. Funeral 11th grandmother, runer May, 2.30 pm, Holy Innocents Church, Lamarsh, Essex.

RED - Dorothy Ann (née Rorton) peacefully at the Priory Hospital, Edgbasten, on April 27th after a courageous battle against cancer. Funeral at Sutton Coldfield Crematorium at 11.30 am on Thursday 6th May. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Radiotherapy Fund, Queen Elizabeth Hospital, c/o Dr. T. Latief at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

ERRENG ROGERS - On 23rd April 1999, Isobel Maria of East Molescy, Surrey after a long illness bravely borns. Treasured daughter of the late Lionel W (Bill) and Joan, formerly of Esher. Much loved niece o Margot and consin of George and Oriel. Flowers and funeral enquiries from May 5th to Frederick W Paine, 71 Welton Road, East Molesey.

aged 69, peacefully at home surrounded by his family on 28th April, after an illness borne with great dignity and courage. So dearly loved by his wife Janet and his daughters Sara, Caroline and Amanda, son-in-less

5NT. Tel: (0181) 650-2295. To place death notices,

acknowledgements or notices please call 0171 680 6880

VRIGHT - Richard FitzHerbert Melville. Suddenly on 28th April 1999, aged 73 years. Adored husband, father Addred husband, father and grandisther. Requiem Mass at St Peter and St Pauls' Church, Chatteria, Cambridgeshire on Friday May 7th 1999, at 11 am, followed by cremation at Cambridge Cremetorium at 12.45 pm. Interment of sahes at Ampleforth at a later date. Family flowers only: Donations if desired to CAFOD for Kosovan Refugees. All enouviries to WHITLOCK - Nell Bazzes,

Refugees. All enquiries to J.H. Landin & Son F/D, 52 New Road, Chatteris, Cambs. Tel: 01354 692236. Sara, Caroline and
Amanda, son-in-isw
Raiph and grandchildren
Benjamin, Edward and
Lucy. Funeral Service at
St Mary's Church,
Shortlands 2 pm, Friday
7th May. Private
cremation. Family flowers
only. Donations if dosired
to British Prestate Group
c/o H. Copeland and Son,
9 Bromley Road,
Beckenham, Kent BR3
5NT. Tal: (0181) 630-2295. MEMORIAL SERVICES HANKEY - A Memorial talk and Concert for Vronwy Hankey will be held in the Haldane Room at University College London on Saturday May 22nd at 5.30 pm. Exquiries to Julie Hankey 01965 300740.

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THANKSGIVING SERVICES McGAW - A service to celebrate the life of Commander A. W. T. McGaw will be held at 11.30sm on Thursday June 3rd at St. Olave's Church, Hart Street, EC3 and afterwards at the Clothworkers Hall

TICKETS FOR SALE

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OBITUARIES

DR JOHN **LAWS**

Dr John Laws, CBE. radiologist, died on March 20 aged 77. He was born on October 25, 1921.

JOHN LAWS was one of the outstanding radiologists of his generation, a gifted teacher who developed the radiology department at King's College Hospital in London into one of the finest in the country. He also trained many young doctors who now direct their own departments in Britain and

overseas. The younger of two brothers whose father died when he was it, John William Laws won a scholarship to the Leys School, Cambridge. He shot for the school at Bisley for three years, winning the Ayles-bury Cup In 1938. He studied medicine at Sheffield University and, after junior house jobs and service in the RAMC, specialised in diagnostic radi-

In 1955 he joined the X-ray department at the Hammersmith Hospital, London, and also the Royal Postgraduate Medical School as senior lecturer and consultant. In 12 years of clinical work, reaching and research at the Hammersmith he constantly improved its standards. His main research interests were disorders of the digestive system and chronic lung disease.

In 1967 he became the director of radiology at King's College Hospital in South There, he transformed a department which had been ailing for some time into the hub of the hospital's clinical activities. As his reputation spread, aspiring radiologists came to work and train at King's, which acquired some of the best minds in the field.

Laws played a large part in the activities of the Royal College of Radiologists, of which he was successively registrar, warden and finally president, 1980-83. In 1982 he was appointed CBE.

He also served as consultant adviser in radiology to the Department of Health and Social Security, 1982-86, and as consultant civilian adviser to the Army, 1976-86.

As he neared retirement he took up a new challenge, that of establishing a department of radiology at the new Cromwell Hospital in West London. Here he once again attracted enthusiastic young consultants, and the exacting standards of King's College Hospital were soon evident also at the Cromwell.

Never a man averse to taking an unorthodox position, as a member of the ethics committee of the Cromwell he approved the decision for egg-sharing which was pioneered by its in-vitro fertilisation unit, because he felt it was right that more than one woman should be able to

In retirement Laws explored his lifelong love of photography, and also took up sculpting, which he saw as a natural extension - into a third dimension - of his reading of X-rays. Remarkably talented, he undertook a number of commissions, including four

10,0

Royal College presidents. John Laws's first marriage. to Dr Pamela King, lasted 40 years until her death in 1985. In 1986 he married Dr Diana Brinkley. She survives him, with the son and daughter from his first marriage.

Sir William McCrea, FRS.

mathematician and cosmologist, died on April 25 aged 94. He was born on December 13, 1904.

n a career spanning much of the 20th century. Sir William Mo-Crea made discoveries in mathematics, physics, astronomy and cosmology. He established an international reputation as a researcher and teacher, and inspired affection and respect around the world. He was invited to visit many countries, often as a Royal Society exchange visitor, and was the first British scientist to make an official visit to Argentina after the Falklands conflict.

In common with many astrono-mers of his generation, he spent most of his academic career in mathematics departments, and his first astronomical appointment came in 1966, when he was appointed to be the founding Professor of Astronomy at Sussex University. However, his interest in astronomy had begun some 40 years earlier, while he was a research student in Cambridge (although his first two papers were on the specific heats of carbon dioxide and water vapour).

At that time, it was still commonly believed that the main constituent of the Sun was from In 1929 McCrea followed up the independent results of Cecilia Payne and Albrecht Unsold which suggested that hydrogen was dominant in the solar atmosphere, and proved conclusively that this was

Peter Ware, MC, architect

and conservationist, died on

March 18 aged 70. He was

born on February 8, 1929.

BOTH as a soldier and as an

architect, Peter Ware was

known for his high standards.

He was renowned for his

conservation work and acted

as the architectural consultant

on many restoration projects.

Among these were Barlaston Hall, the Staffordshire home

of the Wedgwood family: Ac-

ton Court in south Gloucester-

shire; and the reconstruction

of Clevedon Pier, for which an

award from the Civic Trust

was announced only hours

As a young officer doing his

National Service with the

Gloucestershire Regiment in

1951, Ware served in Korea.

After coming under heavy

attack, he courageously led his

heavily out-numbered troops

to salety over difficult terrain

during the Battle of Imjin

River, for which he was award-

ed the MC. It was typical of his

unassuming nature that few, if

any, of his colleagues over the

past 40 years knew of the

An alumnus of the now-

closed Bristol School of Archi-

tecture. Ware ran his own

practice in the city for more

than 40 years. He quickly

became noted for his work in

the conservation of old build-

ings, and served as a consult-

ant to both English Heritage

and the City of Bristol.

after his death.

honour.

SIR WILLIAM McCREA

right in a series of papers which laid the foundations for the currently accepted abundances of about threequarters hydrogen and one-quarter elium by mass. William Hunter McCrea had won

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a scholarship to Trinity College, Cambridge, which he entered in 1923. While working for the maths Tripos he somehow found time also to obtain a first-class BSc from London University. In 1927 he was awarded a Rayleigh Prize and was Rouse Ball Senior Student at Trinity, In 1928 he won an exhibition in astronomy, and in 1929 he was awarded an Isaac Newton Studentship. After a year's research in Göttin-

gen, he became a lecturer in Edinburgh, where he met Marian Core, whom he married in 1933. In Edinburgh he turned to the study of relativity and its application to cosmology, as well as working in applied mathematics,

After a period at Imperial College. he was offered a chair in 1936 at Queen's University, Belfast. He took leave in 1943 and for the rest of the war was engaged in operational research for the Admiralty. In 1944 he became Professor of Mathematics and head of department at Royal Holloway College; he was to remain

there for 22 years.

In the 1950s his interest in relativity led to a contentious dispute with Professor Herbert Dingle over the "twin paradox", which proposes that the space-travelling one of a pair of

PETER WARE

The Reptile House at Bristol Zoo, designed by Peter Ware

the establishment of a series of

study tours, and was closely

involved with the Bristol Archi-

His project at Barlaston

Hall, which had been rescued

by Marcus Binney in the 1970s, won the Plasterers' Award in 1998 for the quality of the hand-restored plaster-

work. The Clevedon Pier pro-

lect involved tracking down

Victorian cast-iron buildings

tecture Centre.



twins would age less than the twin who remained on the Earth. McCrea convincingly demonstrated that this

At the same period, he was one of the few people to take seriously the steady-state theory, and he showed how to treat it within the framework of general relativity. He later accept-ed that the theory was ruled out by observational evidence, but he never completely espoused the alternative big bang model, and latterly he became increasingly sceptical about all cosmological models.

In astrophysics, McCrea covered many topics, from cosmology to cosmic rays and novae, and wrote

influentially on the nature of comets and the astronomical conditions for terrestrial ice ages. He had a particular interest in star formation and developed an innovative model for the origin of the solar system. He always emphasised the need for physical understanding, and was the first to make a quantitative study of the rate of formation of hydrogen molecules on the surfaces of dust grains in space, a process crucial to many reactions in interstellar chemistry.

In all he wrote some 280 scientific papers and six books, as well as editing several journals. But he also played a major role in national astronomy, From 1944, he spent many years on the Board of Visitors of the Royal Greenwich Observatory. and he wrote a delightful account of its early history at the time of its tercentenary in 1975. His work for scientific societies was remarkable for its extent and variety. Uniquely he held all four offices (president, secretary, treasurer and foreign correspondent) in the Royal Astronomical Society, and he was on its council almost continuously from 1936 to

From the 1950s, McCrea pressed for the establishment of a national institute for theoretical astronomy. This was approved by the Royal Society, and the net result was the establishment of the Institute of Astronomy in Cambridge, led by Fred Hoyle, and of the smaller Astronomy Centre at Sussex University, where McCrea became Research Professor,

The proximity of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, then at Herstmon-ceux, and the enthusiastic support of the then Astronomer Royal, Sir Richard Woolley, made for a long and successful partnership between observatory and university. After his retirement in 1972, McCrea continued to attend the Astronomy Centre's weekly seminars regularly until the end of 1997, when failing health prevented him from travelling to the university. He also took advantage of his retirement to make extended overseas visits.

Throughout his career McCrea accumulated fellowships and honours. He was awarded the Gold Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society in 1976 and held five honorary degrees. Following his election in 1929, he was a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society for some 70 years. Membership of the London Mathematical Society and Fellow-ship of the Royal Society of Edin-burgh followed in 1931, and he became a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1952. His career was crowned by his knighthood in 1985.

Unassuming and modest, Bill McCrea had friends and admirers everywhere, and enemies nowhere. His passing marks the end of an era in British astronomy. His wife Marian died in 1995, but

he is survived by two daughters and

Italy, the breaking of the

Gustav Line at Cassino, where he won the Bar to his DSO. In

this engagement the two tank troops guarding the flank of

the action were knocked out.

and he himself with the four

tanks of regimental headquar-

ters "guarded the flank for

four hours during which two

self-propelled and at least one

static anti-tank guns were endeavouring to knock him out, so that they could get at

the right flank of the attack.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hamilton-

OLIVIA CAMPBELL

Olivia Campbell, teacher, died on March 15 aged 93. She was born on April 1, 1905.

OLIVIA CAMPBELL and her husband were among the small group who helped Kurt Hahn to found Gordonstoun School, so affecting the devel-opment of education in Britain and abroad in ways that we now take for granted. Good schools now commonly embrace adventure training, community service and the Duke of Edinburgh's Awards, and provide a wide choice of activities to suit all kinds of pupils. Campbell played a distinctive part in establishing this rounded and civic vision of education.

Olivia Paton was the daughter of a professor at Glasgow University. Her grandfather was the artist Sir Noel Paton. She was brought up with her elder brother, Donald, and their cousin Victor flater Lord Ferrier), and learnt early to compete in male society. The small Edwardian four-yearold asserted herself by kicking the big boys' train set to make them angry. Once included, she became an excellent shot and fly-fisherman, a keen fencing competitor, and a sailor with a cool head in

dangerous waters.

Educated at Downe House, first at Darwin's home in Kent and later near Newbury, she was nicknamed "the pugnacious pict". Her headmistress, Olive Willis, who had founded the school, wrote in her last report "I shall miss her flint to my steel", but was to remain

her friend and mentor for life. Olivia Paton took a first in history at Glasgow University before moving to London University to take a doctorate. In 1930 she married Keir Campbell, who was running explorations for Shell in the United States. With the Depression biting, however, he was made redundant, and the Campbells had to cut their overheads. They moved to a tent in the mountains, and Keir found work in soup kitchens. Eventually they joined her brother. and by hard labour started a quarry on Orcas Island, Seat-tle, mining lime for bleaching

newsprint. Olivia Campbell began to reconsider both educational priorities and her own atheism. Returning to Britain, the couple were advised by Olive Willis to contact Kurt Hahn. the founder of Salem, the exclusive German boarding school, who had been rescued from prison under Hitler, and was planning to start an experiment in education at

Gordonstoun in Moray. Hahn's school set out with £2,000 and six pupils to train a generation to be physically and mentally independent. Keir Campbell taught geography, ran the estate, and was described in the first prospectus as one of three "character training staff". His wife taught

history. Campbell was as concerned with current events as with history. Before the war she had published a paper on Britain and Democracy, which incidentally discussed the need to rebuild society in Germany after Hitler. The training of good citizens be-

BRIGADIER THE HON RICHARD **HAMILTON-RUSSELL**

Brigadier the Hon Richard Hamilton-Russell, DSO and Bar, LVO, wartime tank commander, died on March 2 aged 90. He was born on February 4, 1909.

A CAVALRY officer who mastered mechanisation and led his regiment in North Africa and Italy, Dick Hamilton-Russell had an exceptional career as a fighting soldier in the Second World War. Commissioned into the 17th/21st Lancers in 1929, he had been destined for the Brigade of Guards, but the commanding officer of the 17th/21st, impressed by his excellent horsemanship which won him the Saddle at Sandhurst, persuaded him that his talent would find more scope in the cavalry. The regiment, mechanised in India in 1938, arrived home too late to take part in the field until the Torch invasion of North Africa in 1942, by which time Hamilton-Russell had risen to command. He led the egiment till May 1944

Its engagements - in which he was twice decorated -included the Battle of Thala, where the regiment stopped Rommel's thrust at the supply lines of the 1st Army. In a long and hard-fought day and night action Hamilton-Russell had three tanks shot under him. The Battle of Fondouk was the Balaclava of the war for the 17th/21st and the 16th/5th - now united as the Queen's Royal Lancers. There the armour was compelled to force the pass, heavily mined and guarded by anti-tank guns, when the infantry were unable to clear the high

ground on either side. Here Hamilton-Russell received his first DSO for (in the words of the official citation) 'his coolness and tenacity .. although himself slightly wounded, he quietly maintained the morale of the

indeed was the whole square. regiment which had fairly Raised an Anglican, Ware heavy casualties and finally converted to Roman Catholiwon through in the face of cism at the time of his difficulties which at one time marriage in 1958. He nevertheappeared insuperable". In the final stages of the less maintained a close relationship with the Church of England, carrying out quin-quennial architectural reports on many of the West

North African campaign the regiment was involved in the Battle of El Hourzia. This was an attack on a prominent feature designed to draw off and exhaust the German armoured reserves. The plan was successful, and opened the gate to the final pursuit and surrender of the enemy in the Cap Bou peninsula.

The last great battle in which he was involved was in



alone prevented the enemy from interfering with 78th Division".

After Cassino, Hamilton-

Russell was appointed secondin-command of 21st Army Tank Brigade. When the war ended he was sent to Austria to command the regiment for the second time, and later commanded it for the third time, when it was acting as a training regiment in York-shire. He retired from the Army in 1954 after instructing at the Staff College, Camberley, and was Colonel of the Regiment, 1957-65. He was a member of the Honourable Corps of Gentlemen at Arms.

Born the second son of the 9th Viscount Boyne, the Hon Richard Gustavus Hamilton-Russell was the only one of four brothers to survive the war. Educated at Eton and Sandhurst, he joined his regiment on the eve of embarkation for Egypt and India.

In 1956 he and his wife, the Hon Pamela Cayzer, settled in Yorkshire, where he farmed 300 acres. He hunted with the Bedale, did duty as High Sheriff and Deputy Lieutenant, and was prominent in charitable causes, particularly the Red Cross. His wife died in 1987. He leaves a daughter and two sons, both of whom served in the regiment.

came an important ideal at Cordonstoun. After the war Hahn set up a training centre at Dunkinty House, Moray, run by the Campbells and attended by Germans sent from education. local government, churches and other groups dedicated to preventing the rise of further dictatorships. Later. Campbell and her

husband (who died in 1955) ran a forestry and farming estate in Argyll. When Olive Willis was due to retire from Downe House in the 1950s. she asked Campbell to succeed, but Campbell took the difficult decision to put first her commitment to her two sons and two daughters and her husband's three orphaned nephews. They all survive her.

PERSONAL COLUMN

He was also drawn to

contemporary architecture,

specialising in zoological build-

ings.He designed homes for

the monkeys, elephants and reptiles of Bristol Zoo, as well

as converting its bear pit into a

A key figure in the drive to

designate conservation areas.

he found time to inform and

inspire people about architec-

ture and landscape through

walk-through aquarium.



THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA

30 1.51

long since removed and restor-

Ware's love of fine buildings

and elegant architecture was

mirrored in his private life. In

1954 he spent £160 purchasing

a derelict property in Dowry Square, Brisiol, which had

once been the home of Robert

Davey, the inventor of the gas

lamp. The Georgian town

house was soon restored, as

with Ware as consultant.

ing them to their glory.

NEW YORK, April 18 A special despatch to the Tribune, from Washington, dated the 17th inst. states that a force of Federal cavalry, infantry, and artillery, under General Stoneman, after making a leint at Kelly's Ford, crossed the Rappahannock higher up, and advanced upon Culpepper and Gordonsville, occupying the latter place. This movement, it is asserted, breaks the line of the Virginia Central Railway, and turns the left flank of the Confederates at Fredericksburg. None of the other fournals contain this news.

NEW YORK, April 17 The Confederates, under Longstreet, to the reported number of 30,000 strong, continue to invest Suffolk, where the Federals are fortifying themselves. Heavy skirmishing daily occurs. The Confederates have attempted to get round Suffolk and cut off the Federal communication with Norfolk. It is supposed that in case of the capture of Suffolk by the Confederates the Federals would burn Nor-

Southern despatches from Vicksburg to the 10th inst. state that two more Federal

ON THIS DAY

April 30, 1863

The Times was appallingly wrong on the American Civil War. In Printing House Square there was an anti-North prejudice led by the inaccurate, unbalanced reports of the paper's correspondents.

transports, filled with troops, had gone up the Mississippi, and others were preparing to

Fifty-three Federal gunboats had proceeded up the Coldwater River. A Federal iron-clad was abandoned and destroyed at the mouth of the Amite River.

Refugees from Vicksburg state that there are sufficient supplies there to last the garrison for two years. Vicksburg is fortified by 225 cannon. At present it is held by not more than 5,000 troops, but, in case of attack, reinforcements can be had.

The Confederates are constructing three gunboats up the Red River. The steamer Indianola is lying at Plaisance, on the Red River, ready for action ... The New York press generally, with the

exception of the World, are assuming a highly belligerent tone towards England. The New York Herald urges President Lincoln to call an extra Session of Congress, to consider what measures ought to be adopted in case of a collision with England, and thinks Congress should share with the President the responsbilities of a war with England, if such a course should be necessary to vindicate the honour or uphold the interests of America.

The New York Times says it is physically certain that America will exact atonement for British outrages: the only uncertain thing is the question of time. It may be next month, or next year, or ten years hence, but every dollar destroyed by English privateers will be made good by voluntary payments or reprisals.

The same journal thinks that the invincibili-

ty of the American seaboard is proved by the fact that the harbour obstructions can prevent the entrance into their ports of iron-clad fleets; and, as the war would be entirely defensive on the part of America, with the exception that America would invade Canada and launch hundreds of privateers, there is left no room to doubt that England would get the worst of it.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

US firms may run benefits system

■ Tony Blair has approved plans for Britain's largest privatisation by inviting companies to run the delivery of the £110 billion benefit system.

The Prime Minister is putting his personal authority on the initiative, which will be Labour's key welfare reform proposal at the next general election. A restricted document, leaked to The Times, reveals that two American-based companies are shortlisted to run four pilot benefit-delivery operations........Page 1

Nato bungle as missile hits Bulgaria

■ Nato sought to limit the diplomatic damage from an airlaunched missile which went astray and destroyed a house in the suburbs of Sofia, the capital of Bulgaria. The alliance said the missile strayed after it was fired at a Serbian surface-to-air missile site that had tracked it with radar......Pages I, 18-20

Pinochet may get aid

British taxpayers could be saddled with a multimillion-pound legal bill from General Pinochet after Lord Irvine, the Lord Chancellor, announced that he may be entitled to legal aid.....Page 1

Tories blame Lilley

William Hague is being urged to sack Peter Lilley, his deputy, in the aftermath of the public services row which has damaged the party in the run-up to the midterm elections......Pages 1, 15

BBC tightens safety

BBC staff were issued with a fourpoint safety plan as Tony Hall. the chief executive of BBC News. remained under police protection after receiving a death threat from a caller claiming to be a Serb activist... Heart surgery in pub

A woman doctor brought a stabbing victim back to life by performing open heart surgery on

the floor of a pub......Page 5 Weather's new look The complexion of weather maps will change from tomorrow when they carry an ultraviolet radiation

forecasts to show how dangerous the sun's rays are **Ancient 200 at Tower** Archaeologists at the Tower of London have uncovered the foun-

dations of an ancient menagerie that pre-dates the Regent's Park Page 9

for prison officers after the Na-

Prison fitness tests

Fitness tests are being planned

tional Audit Office found that a "sickness culture" is costing up to £62 million a year.....Page 10

Football gravy train

England's millionaire Premier League footballers enjoyed a 36 per cent pay increase last season, picking up £296 million, or £253,000 a player......Page !!

Disney role for Vinnie

The former Wimbledon footballer Vinnie Jones has landed a Hollywood role after impressing Disney in Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels.. ...Page 11

GM-free label plan

Supermarkets that can prove they are sourcing all their ingredients from conventionally grown crops will be able to label products as GM free, under a new scheme being considered by governmentPage 12

Psycho at the Proms

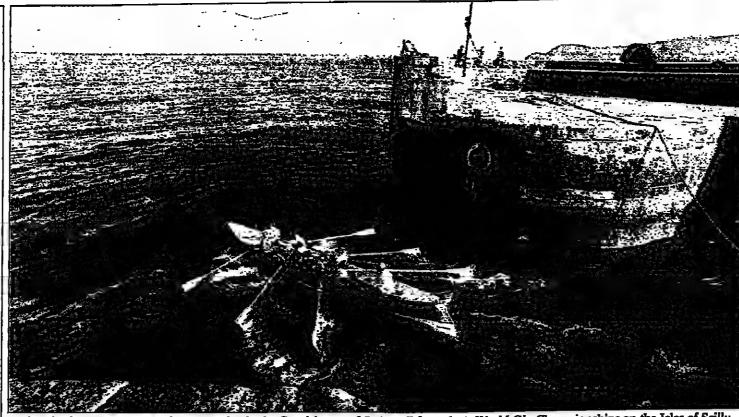
Bernard Herrmann's frightening score to the Alfred Hitchcock classic Psycho will be featured in a special night of film music at the 105th Proms season.......Page 13

Bad vote for Clinton

The US House of Representatives has refused to support airstrikes against Yugoslavia and challenged President Bill Clinton's authority to wage a future ground war...

Teenager spends £1.7m on Internet

Andrew Tyler's mother started hyperventilating when she received the bill for her teenager's Internet shopping spree. The 13-year-old computer buff from New Jersey bid a total of £1.7 million on eBay, an Internet auction site, and won the bidding for five items including two vintage cars and an antique



The Charlestown women's gig team trains in the Cornish port of St Austell for today's World Gig Championships on the Isles of Scilly

BUSINESS

Airtours bids: Airtours, Britain's second largest tour operator, launched a hostile E852 million bid for rival First Choice Page 31 Euro obstacle: The Chancellor's policies are threatening to undermine the Government's aim of joining the single currency, an economic forecaster claims Page 31 US buy: The shares of United News and Media surged in a falling market after the company paid \$920 million in cash for CMP, a US high technology publishing company with online interests......Page 31 Markets: The FTSE 100 index fell 101.2 points to 6497.6. The pound fell 0.44 cents to \$1.6109 but rose 0.11p against the euro to 65.73p. The sterling index was unchanged at

..Page 34

Football: Kevin Keegan is expected to sign a three-year contract as England coach... Page 60 Cricket: Ian Botham criticised England's preparations for the World _Page 60

Tennis: Wimbledon has decided

not to equalise the payments for the men's and women's events despite Snooker: Mark Williams established a 5-3 lead over John Higgins in the semi-finals of the world championship...Page 58

P. DOPER H 15, 23, 24, 36, 43, 49. Bonus: II These numbers are from the National Lottery midweek draw on Wednesday, April 28. One person scooped the Jackpot of £4,381,725.

Tomorrow in the

Award-winning

Saturday Times

Voted Magazine of the Year

MGO with

THE SIMPSONS

Voted Supplement of the Year

ARTS

Morrison on Mahler: "Ninety years on, the Eighth Symphony continues to enthral and deafen us. But can I take it twice in three days?

Pop 1: Caitlin Moran takes to the hills with Stephen Duffy of the Lilac Time; plus Melky Sedeck, hot on the heels of their Fugees brother, Wyclef Jean... . Page 40 Pop 2: David Sinclair reviews the

new album from Suede and wonders whatever happened to their relentless sense of drive and destiny; plus the rise of Arab music in the UK.....

Nobles and savages: The RSC stages an adaptation of Aphra Behn's 17th-century novel Oroonoko, revealing her amazing view of the slave trade......Page 42

FEATURES

Cutting edge: "The other day I set fire to a brace of knives. There they were, lying next to the cooker, when I turned on the gas — and whoomph!" Jane Shilling's hot ... Page 24

Class war: In the final extract from his memoirs, the former Tory minister George Walden dissects three giants of new Labour Page 25

MEDIA

Sun rise: Brian MacArthur talks to David Yelland, the editor of Britain's top-selling tabloid Page 43 Flock lock: If the figures are to be believed, the DJ Yegor Shishkovsky has the largest radio audience in the world.

EDUCATION Back to basics: US pupils failing

elementary tests must do holiday classes. Could the idea help British

THE PAPERS In East Timor this week, Britain's

Deputy Foreign Secretary, Mr Derek Fatchett, has been photographed visiting a clinic in Dili, seeing the sufferings of East Timorese. His visit follows controversy in Britain over the contradiction between the Blair Government's commitment to an "ethical" foreign policy and rising British arms sales to Indonesia. Inevitably then, Mr Fatchett's show of concern in Dili is unconvincing.

RADIO & TV

S:NON (EUR)

Preview: Six hopefuls search for fame. Desperately Seeking Stardom (ITV: 10pm) Review: Paul Hoggart on the BBC's attempts to popu-

OPINION

Break with Milosevic

The overthrow of Mr Milosevic is not a Nato war aim but that does not oblige Nato to talk to him. If Nato continues to treat the generator of conflicts as its interlocutor, it will show it is not serious about stabilising the Balkans Page 27

A healthy option

Few members of the Shadow Cabinet seem able to keep their heads when all about them are losing theirs. Ann Widdecombe is the exception... . Page 27

Tale of a Teletubby

Harassed housewives should welcome the nomination of Anne Wood as Woman of the Year. She created Teletubbies Page 27

COLUMNS

PETER RIDDELL

William Hague's problems are far deeper and more serious than the Tories' self-inflicted, and largely unnecessary, row of the past ten

SIMON JENKINS The chief case against Mr Hague is

that he is doing appallingly in the polis. These polls used to be no more addictive to a politician than the occasional snort of cocaine. Today they are taken intravenously and with shared needles ... Page 26 JAMES HEARTFIELD

Instead of marking a resurgence of

the far Right, the bombings are uniting the country in opposition to PHILIP HOWARD

"Journalese" has been a snobbish insult since papers began. Queen Victoria would not have "the atrocious Times" in her palaces becase of what she deemed its disloyalty in opposing the appalling conduct of the Crimean War..... Page 26

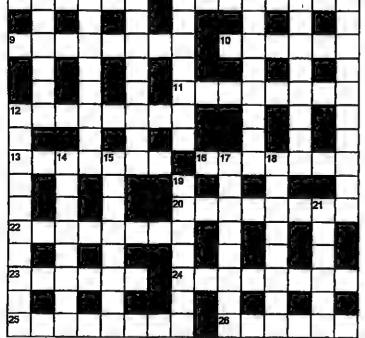
DENTHARIES

Sir William McCrea, cosmologist: Peter Ware, architect; Brigadier the Hon Richard Hamilton Russell, wartime tank commander: Dr John Laws, radiologist..... Page 29

LETERS !

Refugees; cancer; devolution; racism: concealed weapons: Salisbury

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 21.091

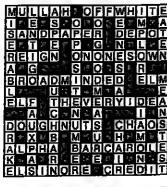


ACROSS

- l Hunter signed agreement accepting I am right (6). 5 Tract lather with some speed
- leased out (8).

 9 Start with actors like mine, taking it from the top (8). 10 Some drama Scott put in "The
- Il That lady and I must get points I'm starting now (4.4). 12 Car reversed, arrived outside 13 Nepotism affected one dis-
- missed more than one worker given sack (7). 16 Stripper against going into wa-
- ter in Channel (7). 20 Abroad, has a supervisor's job.
- 22 It's the last drink that goes to one's head (8).

Solution to Puzzle No 21,090



23 Being Red. for example, is non-U in America (6). 24 Almost everyone has confidence about one who is unself-

ish? (8). 25 Artifice whereby wandering sheep is penned (8). 26 Reprimand for sailor (6)

DOWN 2 I am familiar with a South African antelope (6). 3 What boxing promoters do in

small car (8). Denunciation of help with raising family (8).

5 American sportsman that can hold a lot of drink (7). Quite a large helping - Paul left fragments (8).

7 Un jeu - kind of clue the French can comprehend (8). 8 Conspirator set it out as ordered (5.5).

12 Stargazer's business very bad. with Io not visible (10). 14 Odd as fish may be, but not

15 Suspect drops of water cause corrosion (8). 1? Wild olive – Spanish approval given to flower (8).

birds or animals (8).

18 Lord! Rebate initially reduced by 99% (8). 19 Sculpture in box. perhaps (7). 21 Girl's son suffering young Al-

bert's fate? (6).

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Times Two Crossword, page 60

AA INFORMATION 0336 444 910 0336 401 410 0314 40| 746 0316 40| 747 0326 40| 744 0336 40| 910 0336 40| 829 0236 407 505

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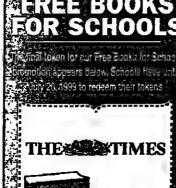
M Car reports by fax

HOURS OF DARKNESS

5.35 am 8.21 pm Moon sets: 6.02 am Full moon today



SUPPORT RECYCLING



FREE BOOKS inal loken for our Free Books for School



☐ General: fine across much of England and Wales and warm in western areas; northern England cloudier, with light rain this afternoon. Showers will edge towards southern coastal counties. Northern and eastern Scotland

generally dry, with drizzle in north. □ London, SE, Cent S England, E Midlands: some sunshine after early mist, but slight risk of a shower later Wind light, northeast. Max 19C (66F). ☐ E Anglia, E, NW, Cent N England: warm sunny spells, small risk of shower later. Wind light, northeast.

showery but west dry. Northern Ireland

Max 18C (64F). □ W Midlands, S&N Wales: some warm sunshine. Wind light, northeast. Max 20C (68F).

☐ Channel Islands, SW England: sunny spells but risk of showers, possibly with thunder inland, later. Wind moderate, northeast. Max 18C (64F). ☐ Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England: spots of rain, cleaning later. Wind light, northeast. Max 18C (64F).

iawr en 001

☐ Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee: light rain spreading southwards, but some bright spells. Wind light, northeast. Max 16C (61F).

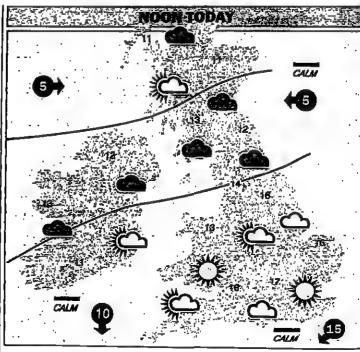
☐ Aberdeen, Cent Highlands, Moray Firth, NE, NW Scotland: sunny Intervals, then cloud and showers Wind light, northwest. Max 12C (54F). ☐ SW Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: cooler than recently with risk of showers. Wind light, north. Max 14C (57F). ☐ Orkney, Shetland: fleeting sunny Intervals and strong risk of showers. Wind light, northwest. Max 10C (50F). □ N Ireland: mostly cloudy, risk of drizzle in north. Wind moderate, north

to northwest. Max 14C (57F). ☐ Republic of Ireland: sunny spells south, perhaps drizzle in north. Wind northeast, light. Max 16C (61F). ☐ Outlook: cooler tornorrow; eastern and northern regions will have showers; Wales and southwest England should have some sunshine. Sunday will be mostly dry, with sunshine after early log, but north will be cloudier.

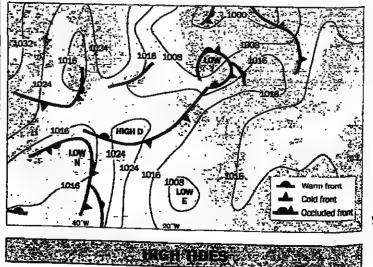
AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY 24 hrs to 5 pm. b≠bnghl, C≈cloud, d=drazie; ds≥dust storm, du≄dult; l≤fair, lg=fog; g=gales; h⇒hail r=ram; sh=shower; sl=sleet, s=sun, l=thunder

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Changes to the chart below from noon: low N will move northeast and deepen; low E will drift south and fill; low J will transfer northeast and fill; high D will move east and build



TODAY PM 13:21 19:24 23:20 19:10 17:52 23:16 23:45 17:23 12:25 1:10 7:06 10:57 6:52 5:34 11:01 11:36 6:05 0:25 0:15 6:15 6:15 5:228 Abartosen Avontmouth Belfast Cardiff Devonport Dover Dublin Falmouth Greenock Harwoth Holif (Albert D) Branceto 23:26 14:05 21:36 12:12 18:22 17:13 17:54 16:45 18:53 23:30 23:25 23:06 18:26 15:40 6:05 4:57 5:26 4:27 6:28 11:09 11:09 10:52 6:11 3:27 11:47 22:32 18:24 18:08 18:20 14:51 5,4 8.5 8.9 6.8 5.3

ay temp: Charterhall (The Borders) 22C (72F); lowest day mac Lewid ; (between Shedand And Orimey) Galloway 9C (48F); highest raintals (in

wall (Orkney) 0.16ins; highest sumshine: Newquay (Comwall) 13.6hrs.

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Business

Today

Not well endower Stock Market:

BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

FRIDAY APRIL 30 1999

Brown's policies 'jeopardise his aim to join euro'

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

THE Chancellor's policies are threatening to undermine the Government's aim of joining the single currency despite an improving outlook for the Brit-ish economy, a leading economic forecaster claims today.

The National Institute for Economic and Social Research argues that, on current economic trends, the the gap between UK and European rates is likely to widen and that Gordon

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Brown risks taking Britain into European economic and monetary union (EMU) with an overvalued pound. in its quarterly economic re-

view, the institute is optimistic on the immediate outlook for the UK economy, expecting growth to reach 1.25 per cent this year, in line with the Chancellor's forecasts. Growth is then expected to rise to 2.4 per cent next year. However, the performance will conceal a marked difference between manufacturing, in which there is expected to be no return to growth before the end of next THE London market's recent record run came to so abrupt halt yesterday, with the FISE 100 tumbling by more than 100 in Russia for a 4 per cent fall in first quarter points, led by poor figures from Unilever and Allied Domeon, Allied shares fell 31p to or over 5.5 per cent in the shares to 559pm.

The FISE closed down by 101.2 at 6,497 6, fall in interim pre-tax profits of 9 per cent on the back of a poor performance from its pubs business. The drinks group blamed on Tuesday of 6,635.9. The Dow Jones in pubs business. The drinks group blamed poor consumer confidence either side of the 11,000 mark-before latting back in after-turn of the year 1800ert Lea writest. turn of the year (Robert Les verites).

pected to rise only modestly.

underlying inflation falling

year, and robust growth in services. Unemployment is except below target to 1.8 per cent by the end of this year. services. Unemployment is ex-However, the institute argues The immediate inflation outthat the pace of the recovery look also looks benign, with has left little room for further

interest rate cuts and that,

lunch tracing.

with underlying inflation ex-pected to veer slightly above target by the end of next year, UK rates will have to go up. The institute claims that, as

a result. "the evolving econom-

ic situation is starting to make EMU membership look more difficult". It argues that Mr Brown's failure to tighten the fiscal stance in the last Budget has made it less likely that rates will fall towards continental levels and has increased the chances that the pound will stay overvalued.

The institute is also heavily

critical of the Chancellor's refusal to provide a steer on the likely sterling EMU entry rate, claiming that this is the "worst possible" approach to the euro. It gives warning that, on current market trends, ster-ling would join EMU at €1.42 above the level commonly

seen as competitive for British industry.

A lower, more competitive rate would require interest rates rising as high as 7.5 per cent just before entry, risking an inflationary boom once the UK is in the euro area.

However, the institute says that the Government could manage entry at a higher rate "if there is a credible policy commitment to an entry rate". This would allow "people to adjust their wage and price

LINKS

Airtours bid sparks price war by TTG

By SAEED SHAH AND DOMINIC WALSH

THE UK travel industry was thrown into turmoil yesterday after Thomson Travel Group, the country's biggest tour operator, reacted to the announcement of a hostile bid by Airtours for First Choice Holidays by launch-

The £852 million bid from Airtours, the number two in the market, would effectively knock Thomson off the perch it has occupied for 25 years and would make it the world's largest air-inclusive tour operator. The all-paper offer worth 229p a share had been widely expected ever since First Choice announced a recommended £1.5 billion merger group, a little more than a

Airtours said it has backing from shareholders speaking for 43.67 per cent of First Choice shares, including the 10 per cent held by Thomas Cook, owned by WestLB and Preussag of Germany, who have said they will not make a rival bid. The Thomas Cook holding is a legacy of the alliance struck when Airtours attempted to take over First Choice in 1993. First Choice's leading share-holders also include M&G and Phillips & Drew, the fund managers who together speak for 23.5 per cent of the company. Thomson, however, said it would not stand idly by. At its annual meeting yesterday, Michael Brown, chairman, said: "We've been the market leader in the UK for 25 years, and we have no intention of surrendering this position."

The group said that its Thomson Holidays and Skytours holiday programmes for 2000 would go on sale next week with "substantially in-creased capacity and very at-tractive prices" and that it would be launching a new, no-frills, low-cost budget brand. A spokesman said: "What we have announced today is the first step in a strate-

gy to ensure that we don't lose our position."

Referring to the £35 million of cost savings identified by Airtours in its First Choice bid, the Thornson spokesman added: "We couldn't let a competitor increase their competitive posi-tion to the time of £35 million without taking steps to become equally competitive ourselves."

The move was described by analysts as "extremely aggressive", with echoes of the price war that savaged the holiday sector in 1995. Thomson, whose shares lost 24p to 130% n. admitted that some of

its shareholders had expressed concern over its move. One large Thomson inves-tor said: "My feeling is that this is a shameful destruction of shareholder value. Their position seems to be that it has to be number one for number one's sake, with a complete disregard for its own share price. This is the wilful destruction of what has been a very stable

market since 1995." Airpours said its bid offered a chunky premium of 53.9 per cent over the implied value of 148.8p for each First Choice share in the Kuoni deal. Analysts put the value of the Kuoni deal at nearer 185p a share but said that the Airtours offer

There also remains the possibility that Thomson will launch its own bid for First Choice, although it knows it has virtually no hope of getting regulatory clearance. Airtours faces regulatory hurdles but is confident of getting approval. It said it would notify the European Commission of the bid, but would withdraw its offer if the EC launches an in-depth investigation or if the bid is referred to the UK's Competition

First Choice advised shareholders to wait for the initial verdict from Brussels, due in four to six weeks. It said it expected the bid to be blocked.



Lord Hollick, chief executive of United News & Media, left, with Tony Tillen, chief executive of Miller Freeman Worldwide

United surges on \$920m deal

BY RAYMOND SNODDY, MEDIA EDITOR

SHARES of United News & Media surged in a falling market yesterday after the company paid \$920 million (£570 million) in cash for CMP, a US technology publishing company with online interests.

The acquisition, United's largest since the purchase of the Blenheim group, which became part of Miller Freeman. two-and-a-half years ago, takes the company further into the business-to-business media market, which will now account for 58 per cent of group profits. The purchase of titles such as Electronic Engineering Times, InformationWeek, mputer Reseller News and the group's online brand CMP-Net, pushed United's share price up by 47p to 720p.
The members of the found-

the members of the found-ing Leeds family have agreed to sell the 68 per cent of the stock they retained after CMP was floated two years ago. United plans to keep CMP as a tracking stock - in which in-

vestors can invest in the flow of revenue and profits from the publishing company while United retains ownership of the equi-ty. Lord Hollick, chief executive of United, said that the mechanism would not only help to set a value for CMP but would enable United to acquire other electronic assets. Lord Hollick said: This is Web currency we are seeking to create," and added that he believed United was the

first UK media company to

have a tracking stock.

lieved it could raise the margins of the company from its present 6 per cent to 20 per cent while a \$40 million profit improvement target has been set for CMP for 2000.

Lord Hollick said the increasing emphasis on business services would not weaken United's consumer publications such as The Express and its commercial television interests.

Tempus, page 34

CHIROSCI **Feeling** no pain Chiroscience is confident about the US launch of its anaesthetic Brent15-day(Jul)... \$16.20 (\$16,20) COLD United said yesterday it be-London close \$283.35 (\$282.45) * denotes midday trading prices wateline subnessed is

Mortgage industry braced for battle over tighter regulation

By CAROLINE MERREIL, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

THE mortgage lending indus-try is on collision course with the Government over plans to introduce tighter regulation of loans to property buyers.

A report published yester-

day, from the parliamentary cross-party joint committee on financial services and markets, recommends that home loans be brought under the jurisdiction of the Financial Services Authority (FSA), the new super regulator.

The committee headed by Lord Burns, a former permanent secretary to the Treasury. said that it saw no reason why mortgages should not come under the same regulatory regime

as other investment products. If the committee's recommendation is included in the Financial Services and Markets Bill, the mortgage industry, comprising lenders and mortgage brokers, faces a big increase in costs, which could be passed on to

The Council of Mortgage Lenders (CML), the trade organisation, said that it felt the Government should wait to see if a voluntary code of practice, introduced last year, has been effective. The CML said that the costs of bringing in new rules to govern mortgages could outweigh the benefits. The British Bankers' Associ-

ation (BBA) was also critical of the proposal. Tim Sweeney, BBA director-general. said: "We are concerned at the cost and bureaucracy that would accompany the statutory regulation of mortgages."

The Consumers' Association, however, countered: "We strongly urge the Government to accept these recommendations. After a miserable history of mis-selling and consumer confidence at an all-time low, the FSA must turn round the financial services industry and provide strong regulation in the interests of consumers."

The FSA is planning to investigate the costs of tighter mortgage regulation. Howard Dav-ies, FSA chairman, has estimated that the regulator will have to take on a further 200 staff to

deal with the extra workload. The report also felt that longterm care insurance should come under the remit of the FSA. It said: "Most purchasers will be financially naive: there will be scope for high-pressure selling to people who are elderly and vulnerable."

The committee also recommended separating the roles of chief executive and chairman at the FSA. Mr Davies currently holds both posts.

Commentary, page 33

'If you do that, you'll kili me'



Robert Maxwell pleaded with his bankers not to call in his debt. Just over two weeks later, he disappeared off his yacht.

The second extract from man Sachs: The Culture of Success appears on page 35

Monsanto sucked into latest EU/US trade row

By CARL MORTISHED, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

MONSANTO, the leading pro-ducer of genetically modified soya, could be drawn into a new trade row between Brussels and Washington over the use of artificial hormones in

The US agribusiness firm produces bovine somatotropin (BST), a hormone that boosts milk production in cows. Widely used in the US, the synthetic hormone is prohibited in the EU but the ban is due to expire at the end of the year.

The US is expected to challenge any attempt to renew the ban using World Trade Organisation procedures and EU officials, embroiled in a row over the European ban on imports

of US beef, expect BST to be the next battleground. Monsanto is in talks to sell its BST product to Eli Lilley.

another US drug company. The milk yield-enhancing hormone is used by 13,000 US farmers and has been worth \$200 million in sales to Monsanto. However, the European Commission is concerned that milk produced from BST-treated cows may cause cancer.

Washington and Brussels are still at loggerheads over a threat by Europe to extend its ban on hormone-treated US beef to imports of all beef of American provenance.

· EU veterinary scientists discovered last month that sam-

ples of meat imported from the US and declared free of hormones contained residues of synthetic growth hormones, prohibited for health reasons under EU rules.

The EU spokesman said he expected an agreement before a ban is imposed on June 15. The ball is in their court. We have to have stiffer controland guarantees."

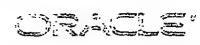
The WTO has ruled that the EU's ban on hormone-treated beef illegal. EU officials have indicated that they are unlikely to have sufficient scientific evidence to argue their case by a May 13 deadline and have offered to pay compensation to

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BUSINESS ROUNDUP

has already cut some of its savings rates by as much as 0.35 per cent. The Abbey National will be making the same 0.1 per cent cut in its mortgage rate while Cheltenham & Gloucester, the mortgage arm of Lloyds TSB, will reduce the cost of bor-

Yorkshire Bank cut its savers' returns by between 0.25 and 0.3 per cent two weeks ago. But will not reduce its mortgage rate by 0.25 per cent until May 4. Northern Rock, which will

be cutting its mortgage rates, is expected to drop savings returns. However, the bank has yet to make an announcement Doug Conquer, an independent financial adviser at Clark

rowing by 0.14 per cent.

Banks announce

Names outperform corporates at Lloyd's

BY GAVIN LUMSDEN INSURANCE CORRESPONDENT

NAMES, the dwindling band of wealthy individuals who risk unlimited losses in return for participating in the Lloyd's of London insurance market, have fared better in recent years than is widely appreciated.

Analysis published yesterday shows that names who remained in the market after the catastrophic losses of the early 1990s have not only en-

joyed better returns recently but have done better than the quoted companies that have largely replaced names as the market's main source of capital since 1994.

According to AM Best International, an insurance rating agency, names achieved a return of 7.76 per cent of capacity in 1996 beating the 5.22 per cent made by corporates who only take on limited liability. Lloyd's three-year accounting cycle means that the result for 1997 is not yet

known, although forecasts gathered in the study reveal that individuals who assume unlimited liability are expected to make an average of 3.32 per cent, trouncing the 1.45 per cent forecast for quoted corporates.

Measured on a capital return basis the difference in performance for 1996 is even more striking with names enjoying 25.9 per cent returns compared with 10.4 per cent for the corporates.

The research also shows that names who are advised by members'

agents on which syndicates to back do far better than corporates picking ed Lloyd's vehicles". capacity on their own. Names acting on advice made 7.25 per cent in 1996 and are forecast to make 2.79 per cent in 1997. By contrast, the corporates made just over 1 per cent in 1996 and will lose 0.5 per cent in 1997.

The figures will cheer many names who feel that they are being sidelined by the Corporation of Lloyd's and could undermine the trend for corporate players to buy syndicates and form mini-in-

Michael Deeny, chairman of the As-sociation of Lloyd's Members, which represents the majority of names and which commissioned the research. said: "The obvious conclusion is that to get the best return from Lloyd's it is preferable to be a name." Analysis disagreed and said that as corporates control three-quarters of capacity at Lloyd's they were involved in betterquality business than three years ago.

cuts in saving rates LEADING banks vesterday announced that savings rates will fall again tomorrow, in some cases by much more than the cut in their mortgage rates on the same day. Halifax will be dropping savers' returns by as much as a quarter of a percentage point for some savers, although its borrowers will only see cuts of 0.1 per cent. Savers with Abbey National, will see falls of up to 0.2 per cent in their returns while Lloyds TSB

Ashcroft hedges his bets in new CSG offer

business tycoon, has sought to hedge his bets in the battle for control of The Corporate Services Group by lifting substantially the cash component of his £250 million takeover offer

The move is designed to elicit acceptances from the big band of institutions believed to be opposed to his bid for the embattled employment compa-ny. But Mr Ashcroft has also created what is effectively an escape route from the CSG saga. He has attached a series of conditions to the bid which will almost certainly ensure it fails in the event that CSG's existing management is replaced.

The two-pronged strategy is aimed at avoiding a scenario under which Mr Ashcroft succeeds in taking over CSG but is forced to inherit a new

management team. Mr Ashcroft's takeover vehicle, New Carlisle, unveiled an alternative offer vesterday, of which cash accounts for up to 75 per cent of the package. This compares with a cash component of up to 40 per cent in the initial bid.

Both offers value CSG shares at about 120p, depending on how the paper compo-nent is calculated. CSG shares closed yesterday at 89%p.

Basildon

Brentwood

Cardiff City

Coichester

Edinburgh

Famborough

Glasgow City

Glasgow Airport

Fareham

Guildford

Croydon

Chester

Bexley

However, New Carlisle said

WEEKEND

Fantastic offer

Basingstoke

Bolton'

Coventry

High Wycombe

Nottingham City

Nottingham/Derby

Southampton/Eastleigh

Stoke-on-Trent

Manchester

Sheffield

Maidstone/Sevenoaks

Birmingham Airport

Birmingham City

MICHAEL ASHCROFT, the it would be prepared to proceed with its revised bid only if resolutions to appoint three new directors to the CSG board were defeated at a meeting on May 4.

If any of the proposed directors were appointed. New Car-lisle said it would leave only its initial offer on the table.

However, New Carlisle has all but ended the original offer's chance of success by saying that it would be open for just 21 days from the time that t was posted.

There is also a string of other conditions attached to this bid, including a minimum acceptance level of 90 per cent.

Some sources close to the complex battle claim that shareholders representing as much as 60 per cent of CSG's issued stock plan to vote in fa-vour of appointing the three new directors. But others believe there are many institutions that would be willing to sell their stock to New Carlisle for El or, in some cases, slightly more.

Yesterday's statement from New Carlisle said nothing to suggest that the revised bid would be its final offer. It is understood that Mr Ashcroft might be willing to raise the offer to £1 or so if he thought it would be sufficient to win con-



Nigel Newton and knight publicising a 16 per cent profit rise by Bloomsbury, which aims to grow in electronic publishing

Bloomsbury ready for take-off

BY RAYMOND SNODDY MEDIA EDITOR

THE Encarta World English Dictionary, which claims to be the most up-to-date lexicon of usage of the language both here and in America is ready for launch and should see a big upsurge in revenues for Bloomsbury, the London publishing house.

The work will be published simultaneously in print and electronic form, and in English and American editions, in a joint venture by Bloomsbury and Microsoft. Nigel Newton, chief executive of Bloomsbury, yesterday said that the

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dictionary was on schedule for publication on September 13. He reported that more than 400,000 copies had been presold aiready and that the lavishly illustrated work is expected to generate revenues of £40 million for Bloomsbury over the next decade.

The new dictionary launch comes as Bloomsbury prepares to publish the third book about Harry Potter, a boy wizard. The first two adventures in the series by J. K. Rowling, which were turned down by a number of publishers, have sold 763.000 copies and Warner Brothers has bought the film rights for a seven-figure sum. Mr Newton said: "I predict that the

series will be bigger than The Chronicles of Narnia or Star Wars."

Bloomsbury yesterday announced a 16 per cent increase in its pre-tax profit, to £1.6 million, for 1998. Turnover rose by 11 per cent, to £15.2 million. The final dividend is unchanged at 2.9p, making

3.7p (3.6p).
Although book publishing remains at the heart of Bloomsbury business, Mr Newton said that the company's ambition is to become one of the leading play-

ers in electronic publishing.

The shares, which have more than tripled over the past 15 months, put on another 12p yesterday to close at 204/2p.

Amvescap hit by trackers

By GAVIN LUMSDEN

SHARES of Amvescap, the Anglo-American fund management group, fell 161/2p to 666p yesterday as the company revealed its US business was continuing to suffer at the hands of low-cost tracker fund managers.

Amvescap saw a net outflow of \$1.3 billion (£800 million) of funds in the first three months of the year, as clients transferred to better performing rivals. This is on top of net losses last year of \$3.1 billion.

The company has now merged Chancellor, the main subsidiary hit by the losses. into the rest of its US institutional division. Bob McCullough, chief financial officer, said the impact on earnings was minimal as the company had won new, higher-margin funds to replace the losses.

Despite the setback in the US. Amvescap said that all parts of the group had achieved record operating profits. Group revenue for the first quarter increased to £241.1 million from £162.1 million last year, pushing pre-tax profits up £13.8 million to £69.7 million. Diluted earnings per share before the amortisation of goodwill arising from the acquisition of GT Global rose 18 per cent to 7.1p.

Shell cuts its US interests

By Carl Mortished

SHELL has sold a big slice of its Gulf of Mexico exploration interests to Apache for \$715 million (£447 million) plus a million Apache shares. The deal haives the Anglo-Dutch group's acreage in the soughtafter US oil province, where it was previously the largest

operator. The sale is part of an initiative to improve the performance of SEPCo, Shell's US exploration arm. The financial performance of Shell Oil, the US subsidiary, had been criticised after it suffered losses from big investments. The subsidiary, which had enjoyed considerable autonomy within Shell, has recently been

brought under tighter control. Shell is selling 22 producing fields, of which 18 are operated by the Anglo-Dutch company. and 16 exploration leases.



Conway, said: "If the rate cut is not passed on to borrowers, then it is unreasonable to pass it on to their savers." Security rule invoked EUROPEAN regulators will not have access to the military aspects of British Aerospace's £7.7 billion merger with GEC's Marconi defence electronics business, it was announced yesterday. The Department of Trade and Industry has invoked a

mend whether it should go to the Competition Commission. **Internet boosts MCI**

law allowing a European Commission member state to rule domestically on aspects of mergers that have national security implications. The DTI will now report on the deal to Stephen Byers, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, and recom-

MCI WorldCom Inc reported a better than expected, threefold increase in first-quarter profits, driven by the benefits of last year's acquisition of MCI Communications Corp and strong growth in data and Internet services. MCI WorldCom. America's second largest long-distance company, said first-quarter profits increased to \$688 million (£427 million), compared with pro forma profits of \$169 million a year ago. Revenues increased 14.7 per cent to \$8.3 billion, compared with pro forma revenues of \$7.3 billion a year ago.

Hambros sues Coutts

SG HAMBROS is suing Coutts, the Queen's banker, over the sale of the bank's Bahamas-based subsidiary for £62 million at the end of last year. In a writ, issued in the High Court last month. SG Hambros claims that Courts "fraudulently misrepresented" the division and made "false representations" about the sales and assets of the private bank. Courts Bahamas, now called SG Bank and Trust Bahamas, is one of the world's oldest private offshore banks. Coutts said: "We categorically reject the claims made against us."

Principal eyes UK

THE Principal Financial Group, the eighth-largest life insurer in the US, is seeking to enter the UK pensions market with an acquisition or by forming an alliance, it has announced. Principal, a mutual insurer and the largest manager of flexible 401K pension plans in the US, wants to exploit the introduction of stakeholder pensions, which the Government is modelling on 401K plans, in two years' time. Ned Burmeister, Principal's pension executive, said that the group was evaluating its options and aimed to launch in the UK later this year.

Aer Lingus alliance

AER LINGUS, the Republic of Ireland's state-owned airline. plans to join Oneworld, the world's largest airline alliance, whose members include British Airways. The move is intended to give the carrier greater global reach. The plan must now be submitted to Mary O'Rourke, Ireland's Public Enterprise Minister, for approval. Analysts have suggested BA may buy a 10 per cent stake costing about £60 million, with American Airlines, another Oneworld member, taking a 5

Revlon deeper in red

REVLON, the ailing US cosmetics firm seen as a possible takeover target for Unilever, yesterday reported more than doubled losses for the first quarter. Revion, controlled by Ronald Perelman, the billionaire, has instructed investment bankers at Goldman Sachs and Lazard Frères to explore the possibility of selling assets to reduce debt. Revion's loss from continuing operations rose from \$15.3 million to \$34.2 million, on reduced sales of \$441.1 million. It said that retailers had been running down existing stock, rather than reordering.

BA catchphrase upheld

RICHARD BRANSON, chairman of Virgin Atlantic, has failed in his latest attempt to stop British Airways using the phrase "the world's favourite airline". BA said it had received a letter from the Advertising Standards Authority saying that it had rejected Mr Branson's attempt to prevent it using the slogan, the fourth time it had done so since 1991. The airline introduced the slogan in 1983, which is based on International Air Transport Association figures that show that more peo-ple from more places around the world chose to fly with BA.

Tempo's Net offer

COMPUTER USERS are to be offered free Internet access and free off-peak local telephone calls to their access provider by Tempo, the electrical retail chain in which 3i, the venture capitalist, has a big stake. The service, called screaming net, will be provided with Localtel, a small telephone company set up in November, and users must use Localtel for all their telephone calls. Calls to the company's help desk will cost 50p a minute. Michael Krafiman, Tempo deputy chairman, said: "The Internet is the fastest-growing medium in the Nineties."

Telecom Italia forced to review defence strategies

By Carl Mortished, international business editor

INVESTMENT banking advisers to Telecom Italia are beginning to dust off discarded defence strategies as diplomatic wrangling between the German and Italian governments threatens the merger with Deutsche Telekom.

Bankers are understood to be toying with new versions of a leveraged buyout of the Italian utility. One source close to the company remarked: "In hindsight, investors may regret they spurned the original plan to gear up the company and buy in TIM lits mobile phone affiliatej." The original

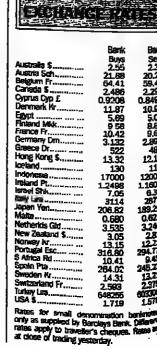
defence to the Olivetti takeover plan collapsed when investors failed to turn up to a general meeting in sufficient numbers to achieve a quorum.

A strategy involving the creation of a new company that would launch a cash and share bid for Telecom Italia could be revived if the merger with Deutsche fails.

The formal launch today of the \$65 billion (£40 billion) Olivetti bid for Telecom Italia will provide further evidence that the merger with Deutsche hangs in the balance. Telecom Italia's formal defence. sent to a merger.

currently being examined by Consob, the Italian regulator, fails to directly criticise the Olivetti offer price of €11.50 per share. The value of Deutsche's offer has recently fallen to less than €12. Instead. Telecom Italia attacks the structure of the Olivetti offer, claiming that the large cash element will deprive investors of future upside and growth in

the telecoms sector. Talks yesterday revealed that the Italian Government is still demanding conditions from Germany prior to its as-



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tradition has it that those who sell mortgages are a different species from those who sell unit trusts or insurance policies. The second group are at heart rogues and charlatans, whose behaviour is only restrained by the tightest of regulation. The former are kindly souls whose aim is to ensure that everyone has a roof over their heads at the least onerous price. Lord Burns does not believe in such fairy stories. The former Permanent Secretary to the Treasury

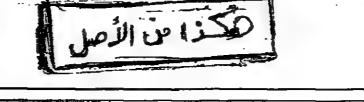
wants to see mortgages subject to the same regulation as other finan-cial products, and quite right too. The mortgage lenders will squeal in horror at the recommendation of the Joint Commit-tee on Financial Services and Markets that their operations should be brought within the scope of the Financial Services Authority. They are happy with life under a voluntary code of con-duct and will insist that coping with the requirements of the FSA will add to the cost of mortgages, thus penalising the very people it

intends to safeguard.

That view will grate with the thousands who now find themselves having to increase the pay-ments on their endowment policies in order to have any hope of paying off the mortgage when its term expires. The argument will he wasted on the very many endowment mortgagees who have not yet realised that they were sold a duff product and that there is a nasty financial shock ahead of them.

It is because of that misplaced trust that the principle of caveat emptor cannot be allowed free rein in the financial markets. And since a mortgage is the largest financial purchase that most individuals make during their lifetime, it is right that it should be governed by the FSA. When she was running the Personal Investment Authority, now subsumed into the FSA, Collette Bowe maintained that this was the collected by the collection of the collect the only logical position but met with the same industry opposi-tion which is now mustering. It must not be allowed to stop Lord Burns's recommendation being

implemented.
At their height, at the end of the 1980s, 80 per cent of mortgages sold were endowments, not because they were what best served the customers but because the commissions were attractive. There is a clear parallel with the pedalling of personal pensions — except for the fact that there has



COMMENTARY

Not well endowed



by our City Editor

been no naming and shaming of the culprits and no compensa-tion for the victims.

Building societies may once have been kindly organisations geared to the needs of their members. Now they are different beings, many of them banks, with shareholders to satisfy. Whatever they might mouth about putting the customer first, it will do the customer no harm to have the FSA on side.

OFT ready for Airtours rematch

ven when it comes to takeover bids, it seems, the brochure offers of package holiday operators lack credi-bility. Airtours has been the wolf at the door at the wedding of First Choice and Switzerland's Kuoni since before the event was

PHILLIPS & Drew Fund Management (PDFM) is attempting to broker a takeover of Alfred McAlpine, the civil engineer and housebuilder in

which it has a near-24 per cent

stake (Martin Barrow writes).

announced, ever so discreetly. while the Chancellor was delivering his Budget seven weeks ago. Airtours's David Crossland first vainly bid for First Choice, then called Owners Abroad, in 1992. Now that Airtours had tabled

a one-for-two share swap offer, its own shares fell 6 per cent to 431p, yet First Choice barely struggled up past 200p.
Airtours has won heavy conditional support, which suggests the Kuoni deal is off. Thomson has already made counterbidding noises. Support for Airtours from the Germans who control Thomas Cook suggests it has dif-

the market cautious? Investors fear that the competition regulators will break up the party and tell everyone to quieten down and go back to their rooms. There is certainly room and opportunity for much bigger

Thomas Cook suggests it has dif-ferent bidding ideas. So why is

companies to emerge in the international holiday market. Since it stabilised it is surprising tha top leisure groups have not been tempted. In the UK, however, the market is already highly concen-trated. Depending how you count. Airtours plus Thomson could control up to 60 per cent.

History is politically embar-rassing too. When Mr Crossland first bid for Owners Abroad, his local Tamon constituency MP happened to be the Corporate Affairs Minister. The DTI gave pre-guid-ance that it was happy with the deal before Neil Hamilton — for it was indeed he - withdrew from the decision in case conflict of interest might be perceived. The OFT upturned the DTI guidance, asking for a reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, which was promptly re-fused by Michael Heseltine, then Mr Hamilton's boss. There are

still folk at the OFT who bridle at the memory and have Mr Cross-land in their sights. So too may lan McCarmey, a current Minis-ter of State at the DTI and one of several members of the present Government who got up an angry motion deploring the affair six long years ago.

EMU cloud on Brown's horizon

he gloom that until recently shrouded the economy has lifted so rapidly that it was almost a shock yesterday to be reminded by some poor corporate re-sults of how perilously close we came to recession. Yet forecasters as respected as the National Instirute of Economic and Social Research (NIESR) are now forecasting that the country is on course for not just the fabled soft landing

but a swift return to robust growth. What more could Chancellor Gordon Brown ask for? Reasonable growth, subdued inflation and relatively low levels of interest rates should be a winning po-hitical formula. But that depends on what political battle is being fought. The NIESR believes Mr Brown may be presiding over a blossoming economy but at the price of another ambition.

current economic policies are simply not compatible with a smooth journey into the single currency. The Chancellor's failure to tighten fiscal policy at the last Budget will ensure the gap between British and European rates widens a growth picks up. rates widens as growth picks up. An absence of leadership on sterling's EMU entry rate means that Britain now risks repeating the mistakes of the ERM fiasco if

with sterling overvalued. That prospect should help Mr Blair when he frames the crucial referendum question.

it were to press ahead and join

One to remember

ROBERT MAXWELL convinced one of the masters of the Universe that he was not bad, merely misunderstood. Goldman Sachs has more than recovered from its encounter with the fat fraud (detailed on page 35) and is now headed for a very successful flotation. Yet there would have been no Maxwell problem if the firm's attitude had been dictated by the wary many rather than the greedy one. A message for the new non-execs to keep high on the agenda.

WH Smith may drop its buyback

WH SMITH may abandon its £100 million share buyback programme because it believes that its shares have risen to levels at which they are now too expensive.

The company, whose shares have been swept ahead 46 per cent in the past four months on the back of its Internet ambitions, has decided to put the programme on hold after buying £40 million of shares.
The remaining £60 million

could be put towards a £500 million war chest earmarked for acquisitions that would bolster its Internet businesses. Richard Handover, chief executive, said: "We have a method for working out the

shareholder value created through buybacks. At a certain share price level, the value created becomes dubious. That's where we are now." Mr Handover added that

to spend the £280 million of cash in the bank. City analysts suspect that WH Smith is close to buying another small electronic publishing house after January's £5.6 million acquisition of Helicon Publishing. That deal

prompted a £660 million increase in WH Smith's market

The group also said that it in-tends to sell its books through Open, the digital television service developed by British Interactive Broadcasting.

WH Smith's shares have ris-

en from 500p to a high of 766p since the Helicon deal, amid hopes that it may become a leading Internet player. However, the shares yesterday fell 25p, to 7564p, as the

company reported pre-tax profits of £105 million, down from £128 million, for the six months to February 28. The group blamed the downturn on the absence of Virgin/ Our Price stores, which were sold last July. Underlying profits, it said, grew to £95 million

(£85 million).
The newly acquired John Menzies shops did badly, after with the rest of the WH Smith high street network. They delivered £5 million profit for the half-year, against £8 million under Menzies control.

Earnings per share were 30.1p (30p). The interim dividend rises to 5.75p (5.23p).

MBO bid poised to win Hall

BY MATTHEW BARBOUR

TT GROUP'S long-running efforts to take over Hall Engineering lost steam vesterday after John Sword, Hall's chief executive, put in an increased management buyout offer.

Acertec, the buyout vehicle led by Mr Sword and backed by Candover Partners, the venture capital group, has raised its cash bid to 170p per share from 155p, a premium of 25 per cent over TT's latest hostile offer of 136p per share. The MBO offer has secured acceptances representing 52 per cent of Hall's shares. They are irrevocable unless a counterbid of at least 187p is tabled. Shares in Hall yester-

day closed up 13p at 168p.

☐ TT meanwhile turned its attentions to Prestwick Holdings yesterday, rescuing the the electronics company that has been facing insolvency with an offer valuing it at £700,000. Prestwick said that if the offer is not accepted it can see no alternative way to raise the capital needed to keep it afloat.

KPMG to launch law firm

BY ROBERT BRUCE

KPMG, the accountancy firm, has poached six senior lawyers from one of its greatest competitors, Pricewaterhouse-Coopers, to launch its own associate UK law firm, to be called KLegal.

The six lawyers, including two banking specialists, repre-sent almost half the partners of what used to be the Price Waterhouse law firm before it merged with Coopers & Lybrand last year to become Arnheim Tite & Lewis. The firm of KLegal will be launched as soon as the team can extri-cate itself from PricewaterhouseCoopers and will link in with KPMG's legal network of some 1,350 lawyers worldwide. Efforts by UK accounting

firms to merge with large UK law firms have mostly failed. lan Barlow, head of tax and legal services at KPMG, said: "We are starting a fresh firm with six partners so that we can build it from scratch in a way which ber-

efits our existing services."

First-quarter decline hits Unilever shares

SHARES in Unilever lost 6 per cent in value after the food and soap company reported a dip in sales in the first quarter and a 4 per cent slide in pretax profits to £666 million (Carl Mortished writes).

Unilever attempted to shrug off the I per cent decline in revenues, mainly a result of weakness in Eastern Europe and a collapse in ice cream sales in

The company said the slowdown compared with very strong gains in the first quarter in 1998, when sales grew 8 of recovery in the Far East.

per cent and profits surged 41 per cent. A spokesman said: For the remainder of the year we expect to re-establish top-The collapse in the Russian

economy hit Unilever's volumes in central and Eastern Europe while the Brazilian economic crisis held back growth in Latin America. The crisis in the Far East had a delayed impact as many customers were stockpiling in the first quarter of last year. However, the company said it was seeing signs

Alfred McAlpine turns down bid

have the backing of PDFM. McAlpine, whose chairman is McAlpine yesterday said that it had rejected a 215.2p-a-share cash offer from an un-named bidder that claims to Sir Terence Harrison, said that the approach was "oppor-tunistic" and that it "substan-tially undervalues the busi-

ness". The McAlpine board is being advised by HSBC. having been just 106p as recently as last September. Yes-The prospect of a takeover

battle for McAlpine sent its shares up sharply yesterday. They rose by 37½p, to 230p, terday's closing price suggests a bid of about £260 million, but this may go higher if a rival bidder emerges. Analysts

believe that an offer would have to be about 270p a share to draw broader support. The PDFM-backed bidder is thought to be a financial buyer, but venture capital firms, including Alchemy and Nomura, were ruled out. A financial buyer would probably aim to break up McAlpine, whose 1998 turnover is estimated to have risen above £700 million. Other significant McAlpine shareholders include Grove family interests, with almost 10 per cent, and Prudential, with almost 5 per cent.



Pre-tax profit similar to last year

Three months unaudited results to 31 March

1999 1998 **OPERATING PROFIT** £341m £378m £311m £309m PRE-TAX PROFIT 11.08p 9.18p EARNINGS PER SHARE

- The Group's pre-tax profit, at £309 million, was similar to last year.
- Operating profit at £341 million was down 10 per cent. This reflected economic and currency problems in a number of markets, although there are now early signs of recovery in the Brazilian and Asian economies.
- Total cigarette volumes were 6 per cent lower. Sales were adversely affected in the quarter by economic uncertainty in many of the priority markets and US domestic volumes suffered from price increases following the US tobacco settlement.
- The reduction in earnings per share principally arises from an accounting distortion in the Group's effective tax rate for 1999, in connection with US tobacco settlements.
- The proposed merger with Rothmans, which is on track for completion in the second quarter, will obviously have a major impact on the Group in the balance of the year. Excluding Rothmans, however, the Board expects that operating profit before exceptional items should be broadly similar to 1998, as the results improve during the second half of

Martin Broughton, Chairman

The full quarterly report is being posted to shareholders and copies are available from the Company Secretary, British American Tobacco p.l.c., Globe House, 4 Temple Place, London WC2R 2PG.



PowerGen weakens as FTSE drops 101 points

POWERGEN should today announce the disposal of two power stations for about £1.5

The power generator was ordered by the Government to dispose of the two stations -Ferrybridge in West Yorkshire and Fiddlers Ferry on Merseyside - as a condition of its acquisition of East Midlands Electricity being allowed to proceed. The Government set a deadline for PowerGen of the end of April, for the disposals to be completed.

The buyer of both stations is reckoned to be Mission Energy of the US, part of Edison In-ternational. It already owns First Hydro, the Welsh hydroelectricity station.

PowerGen fell 9!sp to 695!sp on turnover of more than two million shares. It has been talking this week to fund managers, having seen its share price drop from a peak of 905p in January.

London Clubs, the casino operator, stood out with a jump of 13p to 159 p in heavy of 3.67 million shares. Talk of a management buyout has been discounted and the latest whisper is of a possible Singaporean buyer.

The speculators were also out in force for London International Group with the price up 8p at 1781:p. Once again turnover was heavy with 4.86 million shares changing hands. Word is an overseas buyer is ready to offer 225p a share for the Durex condom maker. That would value the business at £781 million.

Elsewhere, it was time for the profit-takers to move in after several days of impressive gains. Attempts at a rally, on the back of firmer trading in New York where the economic numbers were encouraging. proved short-lived.

The FTSE 100 index closed near its low point of the day with a fall of 101.2 at 6.497.6. By contrast, the FTSE 250 index rose 2.9 to 5.816.6 as a total of 1.09 billion shares changed

Blue chips have led the market higher this week, so it was natural that they should suffer the heaviest falls yesterday. Allied Domecq fell 3tp to 478tap on the back of its downbeat results. But there were also losses for Rentokil Initial, 1940 at 3594.p. BT, 52p to £10.25. Compass, 32p to 633p, and Daily Mail Trust, 112p to £32.87. But fund managers remain

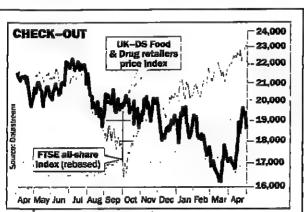


Ed Wallis, chairman of PowerGen, is expected to announce the disposal of two power stations. The shares declined 9%p

upbeat about prospects medium term. About £2 billion worth of special dividends are due to be paid next month and most of that will find its way back into the market. The Prudential announced earlier this week that Egg, its direct banking arm, had also raised £5 billion to invest

Heavy selling of drug companies overnight in the US left Glaxo Wellcome 85p down at £18.43, AstraZeneca 100p at £24.10, and SmithKline Beecham 25p at 81512p. Marks & Spencer came un-

der fresh selling pressure with the price dropping 194p to 430p as Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, the broker, began urging clients to switch into Great Universal Stores, down 10top at 697p. BT Alex



THE big supermarket chains appear to have reached their sell-by date. with a number of brokers beginning to turn cautious of the sector. They suffered some of

the biggest falls yesterday. with Tesco down 94p at 17714p. J Sainsbury 20th at 380 ap. Asda 5p at 203p and Somerfield 4 ap at

Earlier this week HSBC Securities, the broker. downgraded its recommendation on Tesco from day reiterated its decision to "reduce" in Sainsbury. The absence of any move by the US retail giant Wal-Mart to bid for either Asda or Safeway has also prompted investors to take profits and move back into

other defensive sectors. Safeway, down 54p at 253p. has stepped up competitive pressure with a new promotion. It is offering double and treble bonus points to customers for every £200 or £300 spent. The move follows similar

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Acq 223 242 25: 280': 300 319': 340 366':

444

New York.

Brown has also been a seller of M&S.

The speculators piled in after Alfred McAlpine, up 371/2p at 230p, announced that it had rejected an "unsolicited" bid approach worth just over 215p a share. Phillips & Drew's fund management arm holds about 24 per cent of the shares.

Travis Perkins responded to a "buy" recommendation from Warburg Dillon Reed. the broker, with a rise of 46p at 6521/p. Earlier this week the company bought Keyline from CRH as the first step to becoming the second-biggest builder's merchant in the country.

Severfield Reeve defied the trend with a rise of 371/2p at 417mp. The engineer is mid-way through a series of City presentations for brokers and fund managers.

Elsewhere in the engineering sector, Expannet International has been enjoying the revival in cyclical stocks. It rose lip to 1281/p yesterday and has come up from the 98p level during the past few weeks alone: One of the biggest falls on

the day was seen in ECsoft Group, down 275p, or almost 19 per cent, at £11.871/p. US brokers are taking an increasingly cautious view of prospects with Warburg Dillon Inc downgrading from "strong buy" to "hold".

Autologic celebrated posirive news with a jump of 21p to 360p. The car transporter group has been awarded a contract to move Ford's vehicles around the country. ☐ GILT-EDGED: Bond pric-

es recovered some of the lost ground given up after the poor reception given to Wednesday's auction of £500 million of index-linked stock.

Prices at the longer end enjoyed the best support with gains stretching to more than El helped by the first-quarter US employment numbers. Dealers said Wednesday's sell-off had been overdone. In the futures pit, the June series of the long gilt rose 50p

to £116.58 as a total of 32,000 contracts were completed. Among conventional issues Treasury 7 per cent 2002 put on 13p at £105.89, while at the longer end Treasury 8 per cent

2021 rose £1.21 to £146.33. □ NEW YORK: Strong cyclical issues and reassuring empioyment costs data helped the Dow Jones industrial average by midday.

MAJOR INDICES Hong Linux Amsterdam: ...573 52 (-201) Sydney: Frankfurt: .5334.42 (-14.19) Singapore: _1818.49 (-18.67) Brussels: 3233.43 (-4 04) Paris: Zorich: SMI Index Loadon: FT 30 . 4052.5 (-70.1 _____5816 6 (+29) FISE 250 . FTSE Fased Interest Bargains SEAQ Yorlume .

RECENT ISSUES

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	Br Smir Cas VCT Wrts	12¹≥		
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	Edinburgh Inc & Val	110		
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	Fleming I & G Units 2006	648		
	Gartmore High Income	111		
	Gartmore Zero Div Pl	109		
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	Northern 2 VCT	100		
	Sherry FitzGerald	142		
	Sports Internet	186':		
	Triven VCT	100		•••
	Voyagez 2000	10	+	1
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RIGHTS ISSUES

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10050.				
Stock	Close	Ching		ng*
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McAlping (A)	.230	+ 37'2		19.4
Alumesc		+ 17	+	16.9
Virtual Interne	.24712	+ 35	+	16.4
Swallowfield:	_7212	+ 10	+	16.0
Connaught	203	+ 18	+	9.7
Ranger	3083	+ 25%	+	9.0
Lavendon		+ 36	+	9.0
Diploma		+ 13	+.	ŘŠ
Carclo Eng	146	÷ 1Ž	÷	8.9
London Clubs	1591	+ 13	+	A.8
Billiton	206	+ 16%	÷	6.6
Half Eng		+ 13	i.	83
Brit Amer Tob	544	+ 39	+	7.7
Travis Perkins		+ 46	÷	7.5
S&U		+ 171>	+	7.1
United News	720	+ 47	÷	6.9
WMC	2531	± 16%	+	6.7
Autologic	360	+ 21	÷	6.1
Flying Flu Uts	1921	÷ 11	÷	6.0
Canary Wharf	378	+ 21'>	÷	6.0
Prowing	1491	+ 712	i	5.5
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FALLS:

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Br Smaller Co's VCT (100)	95		
Br Smir Cas VCT Wits	121≥		
Caimgorm Euro Restruct	11212		
Caimgom Restruct Wrts	25°2		
Edinburgh Inc & Val	110		
Edinburgh Val Zero Dv Pl	106¹2		
Flerring I & G Units 2006	648		
Gartmore High Income	111		
Gartmore Zero Div Pl	109		
Haliffax Non Cum Pf	99.7	-	
Northern 2 VCT	100		
Sherry FitzGerald	142		
Sports Internet	186':		• • •
Triven VCT	100		- ;
Voyager 2000	10	+	1'

MAJOR CHANGES

10050			
Stock	Close	China	Chang*
A de Gruchy	285	+ 60	+ 266
McAlpine (A)	.230	+ 37'2	+ 19.4
Alumasc	11712	+ 17	+ 16.9
Virtual Interne	.24712	+ 35	+ 16.4
Swallowfield:	_721:	+ 10	+ 16.0
Connaught		+ 18	+ 9.7
Ranger	.3083	+ 254	+ 9.0
Lavendon	436	+ 36	+ 9.0
Diploma	.1581 ₂	+ 13	+ 89
Carclo Eng	.14612	÷ 12	+ 8.9
London Clubs	15912	+ 13	+ 8.8
Billiton	206	+ 16%	+ 6.6
Half Eng	.168	+ 13	- 83
Brit Amer Tob	.544	+ 39	+ 7.7
Travis Perkins	.6521:	÷ 46	+ 7.5
S&U	.26212	+ 1712	+ 7.1
United Hews	720	+ 47	+ 6.9
WMC	26312	± 16%	+ 6.7
Autologic	.360	+ 21	+ 6.1
Flying Fly Uts	_1921a	÷ 11	+ 6.0
Canary Wharf	.378	+ 21':	- 6.0
Prowing	.14212	+ 712	÷ 5.5
Dourstor los	ริวกร์เ	±4747.	4 54

T*EMPUS*

United's new star buy

478 p. down 6 per cent yester-

Investors need to be careful

about assessing the share val-

yield. Yesterday the interim

was lifted to 15p from 9.73p.

but it cannot be assumed that

this points to a big increase in

IN NEED OF A SHARPENER

COULD the Internet do for United News & Media what it did for Dixons? Judging by yesterday reaction to United's £571 million acquisition of CMP, the US business publisher with strong Internet interests, the answer appears to be yes. Shares in the media group rocketed 47p to 720p yesterday. They now trade 50 per cent higher than in January.

United has paid a lot of money for CMP (about 1.9 times sales), but the acquired company has been valued according to the revenues generated by its print titles, such as Information Week, rather than according to the on-line news titles. In comparison with some of the more excited prices being paid for cyberspace exposure, United appears to have got a bargain. Then again, the Internet is only a small part of the CMP operation, which perhaps explains the terrestrial purchase price.

United plans to merge the Internet activities of its Miller Freeman publishing business with those of CMP. The newly formed Internet group will then issue "tracker stock" on the US Nasday stock market in the US. This will give United what it calls a "web currency" the company can use to buy other Internet Caugi

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Meanwhile. United will cut costs at CMP. formerly a family run business, in the hope of raising profit margins from 6 per cent to nearer the 20 per cent currently enjoyed by Miller Freeman. Elsewhere in the empire fears of an advertising recession are receding, and it is becoming increasingly likely that it will buy more of the burgeoning Channel 5.

With the CMP deal it is time to reassess United, and the outlook is rosier than previously thought. Accumulate.

day, the stock rates on an the tax regime, while it still

earnings multiple of about 13. can. Indeed the underlying

ue in relation to the dividend yield 7 per cent gross of tax.

the annual payout. The jump comes now so that Allied can the doubts, hold.

make the most of changes to

payment pattern is unlikley to

change. In short, the shares

shares look cheap, but are

probably fairly valued at this

time. Long-term promise re-

mains, however, so despite

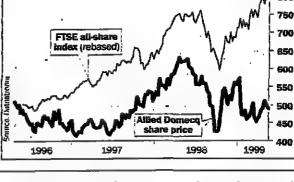
By both measures the

Allied Domecq

TEMPUS is aware that it may have misjudged Allied Domecq in recent months, too. Tempus has been moderately supportive while it is becoming increasingly apparent that the company faces a tougher future than was appreciated.

Yesterday's interim numbers confirm that Allied is lagging behind its peers, notably Diageo, Bass and Whitbread. The spirits side held its own Mexican operations spoilt what was otherwise a decent performance. On the pubs side, pressure remains. Steps are being taken to rectify things, especially in regard of its Firkin pub chain, but it looks as if it will be some time before Allied can give clear evidence that it has genuinely turned the corner.

The company has its problems, but the difficulties are reflected in the share price. At



Chiroscience

DESPITE the distractions and background noise, Chiroscience cannot escape the key issues. It needs to demonstrate that its Chirocaine anaesthetic is safer than the market leader, has sufficient strength to attract a strong marketing partner and can justify a premium price.

The chief executive, John Padfield, is sticking to his plan to launch Chirocalne in the US by the end of the year. This is bold given the delicate judgments to be made. Chirocaine is already approved in Sweden, and appears to have a clear edge over AstraZeneca's Marcaine for use in general surgery, in post-operative pain and with children. But it is worrying to learn that this differentiation was not enough for Chiroscience's first choice marketing partner, which wanted to press for a wider safety claim.

Some suggest Chirocaine

DOLLAR RATES

7.0130-7.0170

7.7503-7.7508

3,7999-3,8001 7.8060-7.8120 1.6960-1.6970

8.3984-8.4084 1.5174-1.5184

1.6110-1.6120 2.4448-2.4482 0.6010-0.6162 2.6210-2.6285

0.8675-0.8889

1.5188-1.5213

8.9572-9.1202 490.50-502.50

12,4764-12,4858

.... 68.29-69.98 13091.0-13791.0

5.1190-6.1204 79.10 Buy 5.8025-5.9497

million a year, though Astra's lack of progress with its premium product suggests this may be optimistic. Credit Suisse First Boston forecasts sales of just \$80 million.

Still, with £60 million of cash and with ChiroTech making profits of £12.5 million, the 215p share price is giving Chiroscience little credit for the anaesthetic's potential. The shares will remain numb until a new marketing partner is found, but they are

BAT

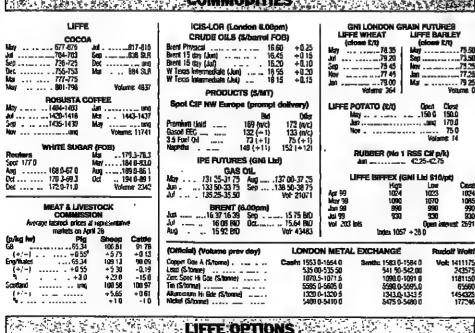
IS THE tobacco sector poised to end its sharp fall from share market grace with an equally sudden recovery? Last week the answer was undoubtedly no. But yesterday's results from British American Tobacco caused many to review matters. BAT has joined the growing

list of British companies that have detected the early signs economies, particularly Asia. Any recovery is almost certain to be gradual but remenber that these markets account for about half of BAT's profit, and the company is still well-leveraged to a turnaround.

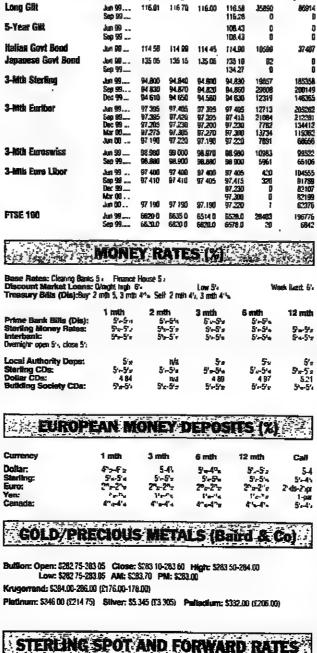
Sentiment surrounding the sector is also set to swing on the growing belief that the litigation threats facing the industry are not as horrendous as previously thought. Twas ever thus, maybe, but BAT says it is confident of winning most cases against individuals, and those it loses are unlikely to have a significant impact on profit. Increasing numbers of observers believe the threat posed by class actions is also overstated.

Investors can start to relish the thought of the company's planned merger with Rothmans, which is expected to deliver substantial savings over the next three years. The stock is trading at under ten times 2000 earnings, so buy.

EDITED BY ROBERT COLE



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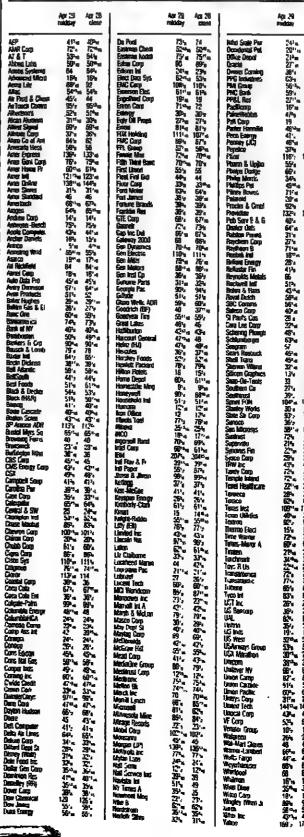
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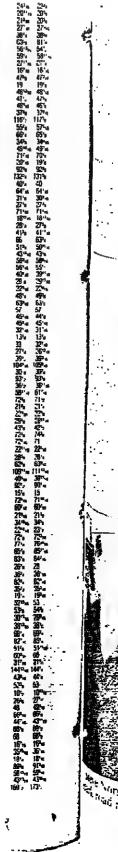
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THE GOLDBAN SACHS ACCOUNT

Caught up in Maxwell's web of lies

Eric Sheinberg was the third most senior partner at Goldman Sachs when he started dealing with Robert Maxwell in 1986. The second extract from Goldman Sachs, The Culture of Success by Lisa Endlich, shows how, in the final months of the tycoon's life, Goldman became more and more embroiled in the tangled affairs of the client that bankers in London had warned against.

1991. Eric Sheinberg met Robert last time. Goldman Sachs was fed up. Maxwell's loan payments to the firm were months overdue. and the firm began to make threats. If Goldman Sachs was not paid immediately it would begin to sell Maxwell's collateral in the market to realise the value of the loans. After months of begging for more time, making excuses and proffering lies, Maxwell's response succinct: "If you do that, you'll kill me."

When the media tycoon fell off his boat on November 5, 1991, his empire went over the side of a cliff, dragging with it the reputation of the companies, among them Goldman Sachs, that had worked with

When Goldman Sachs took on Maxwell it failed to follow the first rule of Wall Street: know your client. Maxwell's professional reputation was far from unblemished and much about his empire was hidden from view. First in 1954 and again in 1971, Maxwell was censured by the British financial authorities.

While Goldman Sachs was aware of Maxwell's sullied name, it believed from the outset that it could safely do business with him in an arm'slength manner, always keeping at a safe distance.

Goldman Sachs's relation-⁶ By April ship with Maxwell began when the firm rented space in an office building owned Maxwell by the publisher in Holborn, Cen-London. Goldman Sachs undertook first piece of busidesperate ness with Maxwell in 1986 for cash? when Eric Sheinberg bid on a

£200 million portfolio of shares Maxwell was of- ing them. On his open foreign fering. Sheinberg had never neard of Maxwell and the deal was a minor success, but the business was welcomed as the firm was trying to establish itself in the London market.

Sheinberg, a trim man with grey hair and a Brooklyn accent, loved Goldman Sachs. He had come to the firm as a college student in 1956 with Peter Sachs, and the two began their careers, like so many others of their era, as outdoor runners, delivering securities between banking houses.

A STREET

By 1991, Sheinberg had been with Goldman Sachs for 30 years, 20 of them as a partner. and was also the third-most senior partner in the firm . . .

IN THE late 1980s, Sheinberg had undertaken a number of block trades for Robert Maxwell, and the firm had acted as underwriter on a few small flotations by Maxwellowned companies, including the Berlitz language schools and the Overseas Airline did, in fact, buy independently

Guide (OAG). In 1989 the partners of the Goldman Sachs London office met in Maxwell House to discuss the burgeon-ing relationship. They argued strenuously that Maxwell was not someone with whom the firm should develop a close relationship. They acquainted the firm with the DTI investigation and its censure. They felt the official reprimand had substance, and that the management committee should take this warning very seriously.

Maxwell's closest relation-ship at Goldman Sachs was with Sheinberg, who at the time believed that there was no reason to be overly concerned about Maxwell's reputation. "I took it on faith that Robert Maxwell was an honest person," Sheinberg said later.

Throughout late 1990 and most of 1991, Goldman became involved in a succession of transactions with Robert Maxwell. These included deals that effectively allowed Maxwell to buy shares in Maxwell Communication Corporation (MCC) at a time when he was not allowed to deal ...

GOLDMAN Sachs's management committee was reconfigured on December 1, 1990, and at its very first meeting the newly assembled body took a hard look at many of the firm's businesses and exposures. Sheinberg received a phone call. The firm was still holding

OAG shares from the flotation a year earlier. the foreign exchange department had open contracts with Maxwell for future settlement and Sheinberg was holding MCC shares. All told, the firm's exposure to Maxwell was estimated by Sheinberg at between \$120 million and \$160 million. The OAG shares could not be sold; if they could have been, the firm would not still be hold-

exchange positions Maxwell of \$10 million, and nobody wanted to force him to realise these. Sheinberg's exposure would be the easiest to shrink, and the message from above was clear: cut it back.

However, Shelnberg did not heed this advice and continued trading with Maxwell. Goldman became involved in a battle to maintain MCC's share price against pressure from large US institutions trying to drive the shares down. In the first seven months of 1991, 72 per cent of all MCC shares traded passed through Goldman...

THE British authorities latinvestigated Goldman Sachs for an alleged illegal share support scheme. They cleared Goldman Sachs of the charge of helping Maxwell to buoy the price of MCC by disguising his purchases. Their conclusion was that Sheinberg



rather than at Maxwell's behest, only later offering the shares to Maxwell, and that there was "not evidence to support an argument that Goldman Sachs was illegally supporting the MCC share price". Goldman Sachs was exonerated of any illicit activity with Maxwell and his companies.

By early 1991 Maxwell held 68 per cent of the shares in MCC, up from 52 per cent only nine months earlier. Legally, he was barred from holding more than 70 per cent of the company. Once Maxwell hit his limit he directed Sheinberg to other buyers who, he assured Goldman Sachs, were unrelated to Maxwell. Sheinberg assumed they were sim-ply investors "friendly to management".

The procedure Maxwell and Sheinberg followed was usually the same. Once Sheinberg let Maxwell know he had shares to sell, Maxwell would often send him to a Dr Werner on behalf of trusts in Liechtenstein, where it also happens that the Maxwell family fortune was said to reside. Rechsteiner never explained the pur-pose of his purchases of MCC shares, and Sheinberg did not feel that he needed to ask.

On March 27, 1991, Goldman Sachs made a loan to Maxwell of £25 million secured by 33 million shares of MCC worth about \$80 million. The one-week loan was at terms favourable to Goldman Sachs so was never called but instead rolled over every week. The MCC collateral, as the firm would have known, was difficult to value. As the largest market-maker in MCC shares, Goldman Sachs itself was the major price discovery mechanism. If there were ever a problem it would be hard to say exactly what the collateral was worth. In making the loan, the firm was confident either in

Maxwell's ability to repay his

obligation easily or in its own

ability to dispose of the collateral without attracting wide-spread attention. Either way, Goldman Sachs was mistaken. By April, Maxwell was des-

perate for cash, and he was going to have to steal to get it. The publisher telephoned Sheinberg with an unusual request, he wanted Goldman Sachs to stand between two buyers and two sellers on some shares of MCC. It would be a simple agency transaction. Maxwell would bring Goldman Sachs both sides, and the firm would earn a small commission of £110,000. Sheinberg did not ask Maxwell why he needed Goldman Sachs for the trade.

"I didn't see any reason to ask him," be told the SEC. "We are brokers. Our business ⁶ Maxwell is shares between buyers and sellers." had failed This is a somewhat unfair characterisa-Goldman to repay a Sachs's business is to find buyers and sellers; they are rarely matched up in advance. It was the had come first time Maxwell Goldman due? Sachs to steal mon-

firm uncovered the theft. Goldman Sachs bought 25 million shares of MCC from two Maxwell pension funds on April 26, 1991, at a total cost of £54.9 million. When the trade settled a month later, the proceeds of these sales were repaid not to the pension funds but, as Kevin Maxwell had directed, to BIT, Maxwell's pri-

used

ey, but it was

months before the

vately owned company.

Maxwell had provided the names of two Liechtenstein trusts, Servex and Yakosa, that would purchase the 25 million shares from Goldman Sachs on the same day they bought them from the pension funds. The trusts were, in fact, indirectly controlled by Maxwell. The payment for the trusts'

shares came from BIT - the same entity Goldman Sachs had paid for the shares only hours earlier. In a memo to his father. Kevin Maxwell described this arrangement as "self-financing". The money simply moved back and forth from Goldman Sachs to BIT, and then back to Goldman Sachs again, all in the same day without any economic function. Meanwhile, Maxwell had shifted 25 million shares of MCC from his employees' pension funds to his personal companies. These shares could now be used as additional collateral for borrowings for his

increasingly illiquid empire. Correspondence between Goldman Sachs's back office and Kevin Maxwell indicates that pay-ment for the shares on behalf of the trusts would be made by the Maxthe back office had looked at this document they might have raised questions about why Maxwell's private

company was funding share purchases for two trusts with which he allegedly had no connection.

Goldman continued to do business with Maxwell over the next few months, despite him failing to deliver £37 million worth of shares it had sold for him and defaulting on a £29 million foreign exchange trans-

DURING the first week in August, Robert Katz was vacationing with his family in South Carolina. The dark-haired, dark-eyed Katz is a former partner of the prestigious law firm Sullivan and Cromwell, Goldman Sachs's lawyers for most of the 20th century. Although not yet a member of the man-

agement committee, as the firm's general counsel and a partner since June 1988, he regularly sat in on the committee's meetings, providing guidance on many complex legal matters. He planned to leave his family Sunday night and fly to New York for what he thought would be the management committee's routine Monday morning meeting. But before making his way to the airport, he received a phone call from one of his assistants informing him that Robert Maxwell had failed to repay a margin loan that had come due

When the management committee sat down for its meet-ing, they asked investment banking partner Ken Brody to assume day-to-day responsibility for the developing Maxwell situation. He was assisted by the co-head of equities, Roy Zuckerberg, Katz, and Sheinberg. But Sheinberg was being edged out of the situation. His partners felt that he had not iaken a tough enough line. They hoped that Sheinberg would cease communications with Maxwell. Now that real problems had developed, Brody and Katz took over.

Goldman Sachs still hoped to work out a repayment schedule that Maxwell could meet. In August the firm was holding £106 million worth of MCC and MGN shares as collateral, and no one was interested in selling it and starting a downward spiral in prices.

Ar the very highest levels, Goldman Sachs now knew that Maxwell was mired in serious financial trouble and had lied to the firm. On August 27, Katz wrote to Rechsteiner and received written confirmation of the verbal assurances he had given Sheinberg that the trusts Rechsteiner was buying for were unrelated to Maxwell. The firm's investment banking division continued dealing with Maxwell in an effort to sell some of his remaining as-sets. But Goldman Sachs un-

collection duty. On the 22nd Maxwell called and asked to meet Brody and Katz. The pair refused to see him. Goldman Sachs was no longer interested in meetings, only in payment. There was nothing to discuss. Later the same morning, Katz received word from the ground-floor security guard that Maxwell was seeking to gain entry to 85 Broad Street (The New York headquarters of Goldman Sachs).

Maxwell rode up to the 12th floor where the firm had its legai department. There, in a conference room, he and his attorney met with Katz, Brody. Sheinberg, Maxwell asked the bankers to remind him once again how much money he still owed. He let them know that while this may have been important to them, to him it was trivial, and the details were a hit fuzzy. Maxwell made a call to Chase Manhanan on his cellular phone and wire-transferred an amount to pay off a small debt he owed the firm. Five minutes later the funds were confirmed to be in a Goldman Sachs account, and Maxwell's ploy had proved successful.

Now Maxwell again offered the story that he would be more liquid by year end and would be able to repay the loans in full. In response, Bro-dy offered the publisher a story of his own. There is a famous story about the Sultan and the condemned man," he began. Everyone perked up, surprised at the conversation's turn and curious to hear what Brody would say. "The man is condemned to be executed but he says to the Sultan: 'If you do not execute me for a year i will teach your dog to talk." Katz recalled, "The point of the story that Mr Maxwell and Mr Brody seemed to click on together quite readily was . . . af-

dertook no further trades with

had still not been repaid, and

on October 10, Brody, Katz,

and Bob Hurst (a co-head of in-

vestment banking) went to see Maxwell at the Helmsley Pal-

ace hotel in New York. Max-

well used his suite at the hotel

as headquarters

and residence.

The three part-

ners and the ex-

tremely over-weight Maxwell

rode upstairs in

a tiny elevator de-

signed for two

normal-sized

adults. After a

few moments of

pleasantries, Bro-

dy reviewed the

history of the un-

paid loans. Max-

well offered a

range of pie-in-

the-sky solutions, all of which

would take time to materialise.

but the men from Goldman

Sachs were tired of giving Max-

well time. The deadline for re-

payment was the following

day, and that, they reminded him, remained unchanged.

ment on the 11th, they extended

the firm's deadline once again

When there was no repay-

By early October the loans

Maxwell or his associates.

ter all, in the course of the year the man might die anyway, • Goldman the dog might die any the Sultan knew that might die anyway, or God knows, the dog might learn to talk. In Maxwell any event the year would have been bought. I think this was mired was Mr Brody's way of suggesting that we in financial had had a lot of talk about things that would happen if we granted more time, and it was time to talk

about payment." Maxwell pleaded with his bankers not to liquidate the collateral: "If you do that, you'll kill me.

Just over two weeks later, Maxwell disappeared off his yacht near the Canary Islands. His body was found the next day . . .

☐ Goldman Sachs: The Culture of Success is published by Little

until Monday, October 21, and Brown on May 6, price £20. Katz and Brody were back on

In a jam

STEVE NORRIS, director-general of the Road Haulage Association, devoted a lecture at the Institute of Logistics this week to a strong plea for road
pricing in central London. This is the
official RHA policy — the truckers
can afford to pass on the suggested £5
a trip levy to their customers, but you
and I can't and I can't.

But this is also the Steve Norris who may or may not run for Mayor of London - "I've made no decision yet." he tells me. Charging us all to



Steve Norris's proposals may spark road rage from Londoners

use our cars would surely be death at the polling booths? He claims not, if the cash goes on improving the roads. "I would be in a position to offer money to solve London's traffic problems." I have my doubts.

NORRIS also told the story of how he turned up to a cinema showing an ob-scure French film, to be greeted with a round of applause. Recognition for years of public service? Then the manager told him he had insisted on an audience of at least ten or the film wouldn't be shown. When Norris and his wife arrived there were only eight in the auditorium.

I would never suggest that so eminent a politican would embroider a story. But again, I have my doubts.

20-20 hindsight

THE extract in The Times today from the history of Goldman Sachs might never have appeared if the bank had listened to two of its most senior corporate financiers.

In the mid-1980s Goldman was renting offices at Maxwell House. The head of the London operation, Bob Conway, asked Peter Spira if he would take on some work for Maxwell. Spira, with more than 20 years experience in the City, said: "Over my



dead body." Conway asked another partner, Bob Hamburger, who consulted with Spira and also refused. Unfortunately Spira and Ham-burger left in 1987. The rest is history.

SIGN of the times: the first profit warnings arrived vesterday blaming the Nato bombing in Kosovo, from Lufthansa, the German airline, and Sabena, of Belgium. Expect British retailers and leisure companies to fol-low in due course. Meanwhile, some clever corporate financier is proba-bly wondering about the death of Jill

Ugly curves?

SIR NORMAN FOSTER and the 1 HEAR that Allied Domeon has final-City planners are heading for a row

over a "vertical curve". This is apparently the latest hot trend in architecture: a concave front that curves back halfway up the building. It sounds odd, I know, and the Cor-

poration of London believes that there should not be too many of them. Two designs by Foster were waved through planning this week, but a third to be considered this summer could prove more of a problem. This is because the site, near Man-

sion House, is alongside some more orthodox buildings and would stick out rather. Some among the planners are gearing themselves up for a fight. Sir Norman's office and Minerva.

the developer, are refusing to comment on the potential for a row. But it would not be the architect's first brush with controversy in the City. His Millennium Tower, set to be the highest building in Europe, did not go ahead after objections from the traditionalists.

AN EMBARRASSING slip for Lord Hollick, presenting on the United News & Media deal. He was running through the slide show and came to the page marked "The Profit Opportunity". Slide otherwise blank. Everyone looked down at their hard cop-ies. Yup, blank. Fair enough for an Internet deal, surely? But a gofer was dispatched for the proper figures.

Pub talk

ly tired of the loutish puns with

which it promotes its main managed pub chain, Firkin. In case you have missed these, they are various plays on "firkin this" and "firkin that" that have proved enormously amusing to

drunken students and other riff-raff. Now Tony Hales, Allied's chief executive, admits: "Some of the humour had become dated and irritating." As part of a revamp of Firkin pubs to make them more attractive to women, any "overtly laddish" humour will be dropped.

Now, that just leaves the people at French Connection . . .

> MARTIN WALLER city.diary@the-times.co.uk



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CONSISTENTLY IT

US investors fuel

venture capital rise

AMERICAN pension funds fuelled a 23 per cent rise in venture capital investment in the UK last year, the British Ven-

ture Capital Association (BVCA) has reported. Venture

groups put £3.8 billion into 1,122 UK companies, four times

the rate at the start of the decade. A further £1.1 billion was in-

The combined £4.9 billion investment via UK venture capi-

tal groups accounts for almost half Europe's total. However,

most of the money ultimately comes from America, where un-

quoted investments are more accepted in institutional portfoli-

os. Overseas investors put up almost three quarters of the

E5.6 billion of new funds committed last year. However, half

of this may finance continental management buyouts. Clive

Sherling. BVCA chairman, said that an increasing amount of

UK venture capital investment is going to high-technology

Better spirits fail to help Domecq

BY DOMINIC WALSH

A SHARP fall in half-year profits sent Allied Domecq's shares sliding yesterday despite evidence that it has started to tackle the problems behind January's disastrous profit warning.
In early trading, the

share price sank 9 per cent - wiping almost £450 million from the company's stock market value - but the price rallied as it became evident that the dire trading in its managed pubs business, which includes the Firkin and Big Steak chains, had been arrested. The shares closed

off 24p at 485 p.

The group saw a 9 per cent decline in pre-tax profits to £292 million in the six months to February 28 from turnover 3 per cent lower at £1.83 billion. Earnings per share dipped 2 per cent to 20.4p. While underlying profits from its spirits and wine division rose 4 per cent, retailing fell 13 per cent.

Its leased pubs maintained last year's £25 mil-lion contribution despite 4 per cent fewer pubs, but managed pub profits were £10 million lower at £70 million because of an erosion in consumer confidence and higher costs. Tony Hales, Allied's chief

executive, said a recent revival in the economic outlook combined with a revamp of some of its concepts, notably the tired Firkin brand, was beginning to reap rewards. "Having restored the sales momentum we're now seeking to restore margins through overhead cost reductions," he said. Mr Hales said that about 20 per cent of its 2,000 managed pubs were the sub-ject of a strategic review. Its spirits division bene-

fited from the continued allocation of investment to its biggest brands with Ballantine's whisky, Kahlua, Becf-cater gin and Sauza tequila

lifting volumes 5 per cent. Sir Christopher Hogg, chairman, remained tightlipped on Allied's search for a spirits partner to counter the threat posed by Diageo. He also said that it would consider such a move only if it was "pragamatic" to do so.

> Tempus, page 34 City Diary, page 35

BAT turns tide as improved outlook sees share price leap

By Paul Armstrong

INVESTORS in the hard-hit tobacco sector yesterday received some of their best news for months when British American Tobacco (BAT) forecast a second-half recovery and claimed that litigation threats had fallen away.

The improved outlook and a better than expected first-quarter results fuelled a 39p rise in BAT shares to 544p in a falling market. The stock had plunged from a recent high of 675p in January amid fears over US lawsuits against the costs of the previous year regets. People have been very

BY PAUL DURMAN

CHIROSCIENCE remains

confident of launching its new

local anaesthetic in the US be-

fore the end of the year even though the European launch

Chirocaine, claimed to be saf-

er than the market-leader sold

by Astra of Sweden, has al-

ready been approved in Eu-

rope. However, Chiroscience is

still seeking a marketing part-

ner to replace Zeneca, which had to drop Chirocaine be-

cause of the competition con-.

cerns raised by the recent merg-

er that formed AstraZeneca.

John Padfield, chief execu-

tive, expects to secure a part-

ner as soon as Chiroscience agrees the label claims for its

anaesthetic with the US Food

and Drug Administration. For

ethical reasons. Chirocaine's

better safety has been shown

only in pigs and sheep, but

Chiroscience still hopes to

He said the year-end launch

target "will be tight but all

product launches are tight". In

Europe, the firm hopes to launch Chirocaine early next year. Dr Padfield said minor

delays were insignificant in the context of a drug with 15

The group's sales grew by 57 per cent last year to £41.2 million because of the continuing

explosive growth of ChiroTech.

which supplies Glaxo Well-

come with a key ingredient of

Ziagen, a recently launched Aids drug. ChiroTech's profits

jumped by 76 per cent to £12.5

million, helping to reduce the

group's operating loss by a third to £17.5 million.

years of patent protection.

charge a premium price.

has been delayed.

conditions.

BAT blamed economic troubles in some of its key overseas markets for a 10 per cent drop in operating profit to £341 million for the first three months of 1999. Revenue rose just 2 per cent to £4.2 billion. It said the uncertainty in developing economies had combined with price rises in the US to drive down cigarette volumes by 6

per cent. A one-off gain in net interest and the absence of the demerger and restructuring

Chiroscience confident of

US launch despite delay

profit level to 1 per cent at £309 million.

Martin Broughton, chairman, said improved trading in the second half was expected to lead to full-year results similar to those in 1998. Analysts said the profit result was slightly above market expectations and would lead to a small increase in full-year earnings forecasts.

Jonathan Fell, an analyst with Merrill Lynch, said: "Sentiment on this company has been about as low as it ever market exposure and the litiga-. tion concerns have probably heen overdone."

Mr Broughton played down the risks posed to BAT by further US litigation, saying the company believed the industry would "generally continue" to win cases against individuals. He also questioned the prospects of any federal suit against the industry, such as that suggested by President

"Any such suit would require a constitutionally sus-

industry and tough trading stricted the drop at the pre-tax worried about the emerging the law to have any chance of success," Mr Broughton said. BAT has previously an-

nounced a special interim dividend of 4p a share for the March quarter. It will be paid on July I. BAT's profit result coincided

with reports in the US that the company is developing a cigarette made from tobacco with lower levels of nitrosamines. generally considered among the most prevalent and deadly cancer-causing agents in tobac-

Tempus, page 34

German chemical firms in doldrums

By CARL MORTISHED INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS EDITOR

WEAK demand and falling prices have savaged the firstquarter performance at BASF and Hoechst, the German chemical giants. Both reported falling sales and sliding profits and gave warning of a

bleak outlook.

BASF said that earnings in the first half of 1999 would be lower than a year ago as it announced a 22 per cent slump in first-quarter net income to 6323 million (£210 million).

The industrial chemicals group suffered sales declines in every division except health and nutrition, leaving revenues down 8 per cent on the previous year's first quarter. The company predicted only a weak pick-up later in the year.

Industrial chemicals was also the Achilles' heel of Hoechst, which plans to merge with Rhone-Poulenc by the end of the year to create a European life sciences group. Hoechst's pre-tax profit for the first quarter fell 57 per cent to €158 million, which the company blamed on weak European growth and uncertainty in the

Far East and Latin America. Hoechst's life sciences busi-ness showed a 53 per cent prof-it gain in the first quarter, which was attributed mainly to strong sales of new drugs, but the pharmaceutical profits surge was wiped out by a collapse in industrial chemicals.

The industrial businesses made just 627 million in the first quarter, an 81 per cent de-

Hoechst said the slide was "due mainly to very difficult conditions in most industrial markets, which are characterised by overcapacity, firmer raw material costs and pressure on selling prices".

start-ups and companies needing cash for major expansion. Euro Disney losses up EURO DISNEY, the theme park operator, reported an increase in first-half losses, caused by an expected rise in charges after a financial restructuring and a partial resumption of royalties to

vested in 210 continental companies.

Walt Disney. The company reported a net loss of €45.3 million (£29.5 million) for the six months to March 31 (£31.3 million loss). Royalties and fees totalled £11.8 million in the first half. For the full year, they are expected to be about 630.5 million. Disneyland 'Paris revenues rose 3 per cent to 6374 million in the first half.

S&U profit declines

S&U, the home-collected credit company, saw a fall in pre-tax profits to £5.9 million from £6.8 million in the year to January 31. However, the total dividend rises to 20p (19p) a share, with a 15p final, in the light of a strong recovery in trading in the second half. S&U said pre-tax profits would have been higher than in the previous 12 months but for an additional provision of £800,000 against doubtful debts, Earnings fell to 33p (40.6p) a share. The shares rose 9p to 254p.

L&B chief to retire

JIM HEILIG is to retire as chief executive of Low & Bonar, the packaging company announced yesterday. A search for his successor is under way. Mr Heilig was appointed in 1995 after the departure of Jim Leng to Laporte. Since then Low & Bonar has emjoyed mixed fortunes in a sector undergoing vast restructuring in the face of difficult trading conditions. At yesterday's annual meeting shareholders were told conditions remained difficult. The shares fell 4½p to 199p, against a 12-month high of 420p.

War hurts Lufthansa

LUFTHANSA, the German airline, suffered a 66 per cent fall in first-quarter net profits and has implied that flight restrictions related to Nato's air war in Yugoslavia bear some blame. The airline said profits plunged to DMIII million (£37.4 million), from DM324 million, citing "difficult operating conditions". Nato planes are refuelling at Frankfurt's international airport, the airline's hub, causing delays. Lufthansa expects 1999 profits of about DM2 billion, down from DM2.5 billion.

European Motor falls

THE new bi-annual car registration system and the strong pound have been blamed by European Motor Holdings, the BMW, Mercedes and Jaguar dealer, for a fall in new vehicle sales in the UK and a drop in pre-tax profits to £7.8 million, from £10.2 million, in the year to March 31. Turnover fell to £429.5 million (£470.4 million). Earnings per share were 7.7p (13.2p). The full-year dividend remains 6.lp. Richard Palmer, chief executive, said current-year trading is significantly up.

Lyonnais attracts ten

FRANCE'S Finance Ministry said that it has received ten bids for a stake in Credit Lyonnais (CL), the state-owned bank that is to be privatised. Bids have come from Crédit Agricole, Crédit Commercial de France, Cie Financière de Paribas, Banques Populaires, AXA, Assurances Générales de France. LVMH, Commerzbank, Banca Intesa and Banco Bilbao Vizcaya. The ministry will, by the end of May, shortlist companies that will be CL's core investors, holding up to 33 per cent.



Tempus, page 34 John Padfield and Christine Soden, Chiroscience finance director, saw sales top £40 million



American Express Services Europe Limited

Notification of Changes in Interest Rate Charges on American Express Credit Cards.

American Express Services Europe Limited announces changes to monthly interest rates for American Express Credit Cards.

American Express Green Credit Card For Cardmembers whose monthly interest rate for goods and services is 1.7% the monthly rate is reduced to 1.48%. In the case of Cash Withdrawal, the interest rate will be charged at 1.4% per month.

American Express Gold Credit Card For Cardmembers whose monthly interest rate for goods and services is 1.55% the monthly rate is reduced to 1.42%.

For Cardmembers whose monthly interest rate for goods and services is 1.24% the monthly rate is reduced to 1.2%.

In the case of Cash Withdrawal, the Interest

rate will be charged at 1.2% per month. American Express Optima Credit Card

For Cardmembers whose monthly interest rate for goods and services is 1.55% the monthly rate is reduced to 1.42%, For Cardmembers whose monthly interest

rate for goods and services is 1.24% the nonthly rate is reduced to 1.2%. All interest rate changes will take effect

from 10th May 1999. American Express Cardmembers Terms and Conditions are amended accordingly.

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Placing will give Bell £62.7m tag

By SAEED SHAH

security systems provider, vesterday said it is coming to the stock market by way of a share placing that will value the company at £62.7 million. The shares, which begin trading next month, have been priced

The company, which installs intruder detection systems, CCTV and fire alarms, said that it expects to raise about £8.6 million, net of expenses, from the placing of 21.5 million

Of the shares being placed by Hoare Govett, 8.3 million would be issued by the company and 13.17 million would be placed by existing shareholders, representing a total of 41.2

BELL GROUP, an electronic per cent of the issued share capital after flotation. The funds raised will be placed on deposit, pending use in expansion of the business, including further acquisitions.

Pat Curran, the chief executive, said: "Given the difficult market conditions for smaller company flotations recently, it is all the more pleasing to see the strong appetite for invest-ment in Bell."

For the year ended Decem-ber 31, 1998, Bell had operating profit, before goodwill amorti-sation, of £3.8 million, up from £3.0 million, on turnover of £34.1 million. up from £25.7 million. The company said that it anticipates that 1999 will be "another successful year".

EU backs Aerospatiale

THE European Union has approved a merger of Aerospatiale, the French state aerospace company, with the Matra subsidiary of the Lagardère defence group to create the world's fifth-biggest aerospace/ defence group and Europe's second-biggest, with turnover of £12.2 billion (£7.93 billion).

merger

The deal, engineered by France, is seen as a step to wards welding Europe's defence and aerospace operators into a group to rival US giants.



instrumental in their success.

Gilbert's partnership

with Sullivan was



Things get done when you've got the right partner.

Working in harmony brought both men fame and fortune. With the same approach, we'll work in concert with your business. Supply you with all the information you need to select the most profitable trading partners. And make the best-informed credit decisions. So let's talk. Because with the right partner, the results could be dramatic.



Annual General Meeting

The Scottish Provident Institution

The I61st Annual General Meeting of members of the Scottish Provident Institution will be held on Tuesday 25th May 1999 at 12 noon in the Caledonian Hotel, Princes Street, Edinburgh. The meeting will:

- (i) consider the 1998 Accounts and Balance Sheet and the Reports of the Directors and Auditors;
- (ii) elect Directors:
- (iii) determine the remuneration of the Directors;
- (iv) re-elect the Auditors and authorise the Directors to fix their remuneration.

Copies of the Report and Accounts are available from this address on request.

By order of the Board of Directors. G. Henderson, Secretary 7-11 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7YZ

The Scottish Provident Institution, a mutual life office incorporated by Act of Parliament and registered in Scotland No. 25. Registered Office

7-11 Melville Street, Edinburgh EH3 7YZ Regulated by the Personal Investment Authority.

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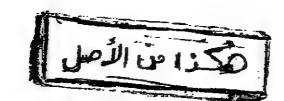
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THE TIMES

THEATRE Aphra Behn's Oroonoko goes on stage

PAGE 42



nce again - thanks to an extraordinary coincidence that I shall come to in about 800 words' time - I find myself thinking about Mahler, And very irritating it is too. Mahler, afer all, is a teenagers' composer. His music is best savoured when you are 18, at which point it exactly fits your world-view: that life, love and death are heroic adventures, worthy to be celebrated in music of

heaven-storming grandeur. At that age a symphony such as the Resurrection, which sweeps you down to hell and then blazes out the promise of immortality, hits you between the eyes. The Adagietto of the Fifth — that shimmering love-song-without-words - leaves you in a trance. You don't walk out of the hall; you float.

Hear the same pieces when you are 37 or 47, and it is liable to be a case of emotion recollected in sterility. By then, most of us have found life to be neither heroic nor tragic rather, it's paying the mortgage and muddling through. The rollercoaster ride hasn't happened. We

Come on, Mahler, make me a kid again can still thrill to Mahler's huge emotional odysseys, but the thrill is rooted in escapism or nostalgia. Aberbach didn't study compos-ers, but Mahler would surely have been his prime example. His sym-And yet old habits die hard. I phonies are wrenched from the nur-

still check my diary each time I see a Mahler concert advertised. No other composer has that effect on me. Why? Well, one clue may lie in a fascinating book, Charisma in Politics, Religion and the Media. by David Aberbach. He studied the lives of people who, for good or evil, exercised charismatic power over mass populations. Ranging from Hitler to Marilyn Monroe, he argued that a traumatic failure or tragedy, often in childhood, leads such figures to seek compensatory control of the public domain. "I belong to the public and to the world," Monroe declared, "because I have never belonged to anyone else." Or as Diana, Princess of Wales, put it "I want to be the princess of people's hearts."

moil of his life — particularly his gristy childhood, scarred by the deaths of his siblings — and then laid bare in public. Nearly a century later, their hold on audiences remains extraordinary. In his hands we are all teenagers, it seems.

But Mahler's symphonies, espe-cially the massive choral ones, are also grand celebrations of music as a truly communal art. Mahler was himself a great conductor, and the music he wrote for orchestral musicians is expertly conceived to stretch them to the technical limit. But the glory of these gigantic works is that their virtuoso demands operate in tandem with choral writing that demands nothing more than a good ear, a tuneful voice and prodigious lungs. To cap



RICHARD MORRISON

it all, Mahler also used children's voices brilliantly. So his symphonies really do span the gamut of music-making, from skilled pros to beginners. That is why every Mahler concert is an event.

And the Eighth Symphony is the greatest event of them all. It's called the Symphony of a Thou-sand because at its 1910 premiere a thousand people (1.002 actually) took part. These days, most performances get by with about 600. But even in these straitened circumstances, Part One of the Eighth Symphony — that hurtling dash through the ancient Catholic hymn Veni Creator Spiritus — is one of the most car-splitting, mind-blowing half-hours in all music. (Unfortunately, it's then followed by Part Two - but nothing is perfect.)

magine my astonishment, then, to discover that next week London will enjoy not one but two unconnected performances of this gargantuan masterpiece. Much laborious prose has been churned out - not least by me - on the subject of London's decline as a world-class musical capital. But I cannot think of any other

city on the globe that could possi-bly find the musicians, or the audience, to sustain two performances of the Symphony of a Thousand, 48 hours apart, by entirely different organisations. What a contrast they will make.

too. The Albert Hall show next Thursday is in what you might call the European Cup of Mahler Eights, with the Royal Philharmonic, three famous choral societies and some starry soloists. Two days later, the Festival Hall hosts the Mahler equivalent of the Nationwide League, including such in-triguing ensembles as the Crouch End Festival Chorus. But I don't doubt for a moment that their commitment will be every bit the equal of the luminaries across the river. Leonard Bernstein said Mahler was "the last great composer". That's a bit gloomy, but one knows what he meant. Mahler lived at the

optimum time in history for personal traumas to be expressed on mas-sive musical canvases. Shortly af-ter he died the advent of cheap mass entertainment destroyed the economic basis for music-making on such a scale. And the rise of a foul generation of political dictators gave charisma and rhetoric a bad name. The power to inspire millions suddenly seemed, to sensi-tive composers at least, unhealthy

and potentially evil. Many retreated into writing complex little pieces for complex little audiences. By contrast, pop com-posers had no scruples about wooing millions with their music, but rarely developed the techniques to extend their art beyond the span of

the four-minute song.
So in one sense Mahler really was the last of the greats. And 90 years on, the Eighth Symphony continues to enthrall and deafen us, just as it did the Edwardians. But can I take it twice in three days? You bet. When it comes to Mahler, as Mr Bryan Adams so memorably wrote, I'm 18 till I die.



Sheep may safely gaze: Henry Moore's massive sculptures can now be viewed in the gently undulating Hertfordshire landscape that he knew so well

Way ahead of the field

obody with even half an ear to hear could have failed to spot the winner at this year's Kathleen Ferrier Award. Yes, she might have yelped a little while catching at speed the highest of high notes in Bellini's Qui la voce. And the palette of her programme might have been a litile bland. But of the five finalists, Sally Matthews, at just 23. had many of the makings of the singer and artist for which this Award is on the lookout.

There is significant booty here: £10,000 and the offer of a London recital. Matthews, alone of the finalists, earned it by fusing superb vocal grooming with real performance skills. Her natural voice is a fragrant, flute-like soprano, ideally suited to her Bach St Matthew Passion aria: her stage presence is, quietly assured, expressing a certain rapt quality rare in such a young singer, and certainly rare in the competition arena. This was focused beguilingly in Samuel Barber's Hermit

The Kathleen Ferrier Award Wigmore Hall

RECITAL

Songs, in Dupares Soupir and in Schumann's Meine Rose. And the voice could certainly move when it finally had to the virtuoso Bellini aria flamed out with considerable bel canto skill, and just the sort of daring shown by too few of the finalists.

There comes a point in every competition when the chairman will, without fail, comment on the exceptionally high standard of the entrants. The prestige of the event is thus reaffirmed: truth is less well served. On many occasions the shortlist is laboriously drawn up, and the winner the best of a frankly mediocre lot.

This, I have to say, was the case this year. The second prize was awarded to Arlene

Rolph, a civilised and well-nurtured mezzo-soprano, whose forthcoming year at the Na-tional Opera Studio will doubtless sharpen the focus of her Cherubino. Richard Burkhard, a bari-

tone audibly and visibly from the English choral-scholar tradition, won third prize. His Bach was sober and studied: his Schubert Fischerweise somewhat lacking in Lebens-lust; his Verdi and Ravel cau-tiously and stiffly characterised. My choice would have been the far less safe but thrillingly generous artistry of soprano Donna Bateman. She might well end up nearer Ronnie Scott's than the Wigmore Hall; but in the exuberance of her Gounod, the miniaturism of her Wolf, and in the sheer enterprise of presenting an eloquent new work by fellow Guildhall student Quentin Thomas, she fused song and

HILARY FINCH

self in a compellingly commu-

nicative performance.

Placid moorings

erry Green is one of those Home Counties hamlets that urban people find charming-ly rural, and rural people find rather twee. Primroses cluster on mossy verges. A palomino pony noses over a hedge. And in the patchwork gardens of pretty brick cottages, spring ssoms froth and spread. It's hard to believe that a feud could have been fought here. that anything more acrimonious could ever have brewed than the tussock-top squabbles of boisterous lambs.

But Perry Green, in Hertfordshire, was once the home of this century's most celebrated sculptor, Henry Moore. And after his death in 1986 a bit of a barney broke out between his daughter and the trustees of the charitable foundation which Moore set up to preserve his artistic legacy. His daughter laid claim to several of his sculptures. Perry Green, she believed, offered too limited a setting for her father's works, while any further development of the site would risk turning it into a "Disneyland". The trust disagreed. The case went to court.

The trust won. This spring, as Perry Green opens its gates once more to the public, visitors will be able to inspect the changes the trust has made. Or at least, a limited number of visitors will be The home of Britain's greatest

able to, for admission is strictly limited and arranged only by appointment. There have been murmurs of discontent about this. The new Sheep Field Barn gallery, housing a display of smaller works, was built with the help of National Lottery funds. Some feel that public access should, therefore, be unrestricted. But others maintain that the preservation of the peaceful atmosphere is essential to any enjoyment of Moore's sculptures as

they lounge about on the lawns like Gaian gods. "Oh, do look at the sheep!" trilled a lady visitor. The sheep waggled their tails oblivious to her delight. They looked like average ovines to me. But "oh aren't they sweet?" cried the lady, as if she had never encountered such animals before. I suppose, in a way, she had not, in the sense that she was seeing sheep for the first time - as if through the eyes

of Henry Moore. This freshening of perceptions is the whole point of a trip to Perry Green. Moore's work has become so famous that it can seem overfamiliar. But here in the Hertfordshire

sculptor is now open to the public. Rachel Campbell-Johnston reports

> countryside it finds a new liveliness as senses awaken to the landscape in which the pieces are set. The wind threads the holes of their needle-eyes. The bough of a willow seems all the more fragile for brushing the burnished weight of a bronze, while, beside the willow's sway, the bronze ap-

pears even more immovably

plaster forms waiting to be

oore's mountainous sculptures swell from the landscape from which they were conceived. And exhibitions housed in the new gallery and in Moore's former studio spaces trace the evolution of each sculpture from the shapes of flintstones, fossils and bone, through careful sketches and maquettes, to squared-up poly-styrene models and full-scale

The completed sculptures, in their turn, breathe life back into the landscape. A figure carved out of elinwood reclines on its plinth in the Sheep Field Barn. The soft warm glow of its polished surface, the ripple of the grain, the billow of the knots, pay homage to the tree from which it was shaped, to the elms which must once have lined

Perry Green's hedgerows. Outside, at the edge of a flowerbed, I catch the sharp scuttle of a blackbird. Why does it seem so familiar? Because I have just seen it Inside - in a small piece called Bird Form carved from glossy black serpentine, capturing the quickened energy of the real bird in its abstract lines.

To see with Moore's eyes is to meld the mind of man with nature, to mould something new from ancient, organic forms. But still, as I drifted through meticulous gardens, I couldn't help wondering how Moore's works would look if they were placed in some bleaker, less domestic setting. amid the wilderness of the Yorkshire moors, perhaps. Much has been written of the influence of Moore's native Yorkshire landscape on his sculptures. But would the untarned beauty render them docile? Would the barrenness simply return them to rocks? The power of Moore's sculpture probably depends on something softer. Perhaps that was

 Dane Tree House, Perry Green, Much Hadham, Herts. Visitors, by appointment only, between April and mid-October (01279 843 333)

why he chose Perry Green.

...IMMENSELY IMPRESSIVES ...CONSISTENTLY UNSETTLING ...A TRULY SPECTAGULAR SHOWDOWN. ...ONE OF BENING'S BEST-EVER PERFORMANCES ... A PSYCHO FOR THE NEW MILLENNIUM." QUENTIN FALK - FLICKS "BOLD AND IMAGINATIVE." BARRY NORMAN'S FILM NIBIT - SKY PREMIERE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF THE COMPANY OF WOLVES ANNETTE BENING ALDAN QUINN STEPHEN REA AND ROBERT DOWNEY JR: AT CINEMAS ACROSS THE COUNTRY FROM TODAY

hy wasn't this boy tucked up in bed? He certainly looked young enough as he leapt up the platform steps, strolled to the piano, and sat down to Mozart's Coronation Concerto. No 26 in D. This was Gianluca Cascioli, who won first prize at the Umberto Micheli International Piano Competition in 1994 at the age of 15. Since then there have been tours. CDs, solo recitals: all the signs of a great career opening up.
Cascioli's touch in the Mozart — clear

highlight of the English Chamber Orchestra's "Serenade for Spring" concert - was light and gentle. He beckoned you to listen, and beguiled with his intelligence and simplicity. Paul Goodwin, conducting in a fashion-defying Nehru jacket. also held back on the ceremonial pomp. Shows of pianistic force were left to the ca-denzas; for the rest, Cascioli flined delicately over the keys, never more so than in the opening theme of the larghetto, one of those sweet nothings that only Mozart could make sound meaningful. Hearty applause from the modest audience: then, for Cascioli, cocoa and bed.

A suitable boy

CONCERY ECO/Goodwin Barbican

After the interval it was novelty time. and the world premiere of an ECO commission, To the Cherry Blossom by Yui Kakinuma. The strings struck up with shifting chords, nalf English pastoral. half French Impressionist; a solo violin (Paul Barritt) attempted the lark's ascent. Then we heard from Richard Stagg's shakuhachi, a traditional bamboo flute. Chinese in origin, initially played from the back of the stalls. Stagg, in oriental

dress, subsequently moved centre stage, to no great result: we were still stuck with the same plaintive meanderings, the same unproductive clash of cultures. The work will come in handy for the orchestra's next Japanese tour, though its life in Britain, I suspect, is going to be brief.
Schuberr's Fifth Symphony, heard once

in his lifetime, is now never short of reviv-als. Paul Goodwin's was serviceable, but there was nothing to make this performance stand out. The ECO played with spirit, though the minuer's rhythms needed more snap; extra hints of underlying tur-bulence would also have helped to cast off the shroud of blandness.

Ravel's usually disarraing Le Tombeau de Couperin, the concert's opening work. was even easier to shrug off. For an obo-ist-turned-conductor, Goodwin did strangely little to encourage the band's woodwind contingent to keep their solos piquant and shapely. Ravel needs to dance, sway, and sparkle; this performance stood still.

GEOFF BROWN

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Superb Stereophonics

King of the mild frontier

Stephen Duffy is a gentle, talented man with an unfortunate death

wish where his career is concerned

ere are Stephen Duffy's five fa-("Dropped WEA"); 1986 ("Dropped by Virgin"): 1990 ("Dropped by Fontana"); 1993 ("Dropped by Par-lophone") and 1997 ("Dropped by BMG".

"it's good for the soul," he beams, "It's a learning process. What have I learnt? That I'm not doing it for the money. That there's a lot of

record labels in Britain. That it's not a good idea to make a folk album with banjos on it in 1986." You can always judge an artist by what they are they dropped for. In Duffy's case, it's the

simple belief that CAITLIN when you are stand-MORAN ing at a crossroads

with "Predictability, Selling Your Soul for Sixpence and the Top 40" signposted in one direction and "Interesting Hill Walk" in the other, you should always travel with the charts to your back.
As with all classic stories,

there was a revelation before he took to the hills: while on holiday in Jamaica more than a dozen years ago, he had tak-en a tape of Nick Drake's Five Leaves Left to Noël Coward's graveside. "I was amazed by the fireflies." he recalls. "I'd never seen them before - I thought I was creating them in

When the song Riverman came on the tape player, and Drake sang: "Tell her all I can/ About the plan/For lilac time".

Duffy took it as a sign. He came home and formed the Lilac Time with his brother, and wrote an album about a world forgotten: one where days are spent in the fields and evenings spent out on the verandah, with the boys reading poetry and the girls plotting revo-lutions to take place on Monday, eventually cancelled because the weather's too nice.

recorded the album, took it into Virgin and "they dropped me as soon as they heard it". He beams. They said: 'It doesn't sound much like Rick Astley"."

Believing that this was a good thing, Duffy then signed to Fontana, which released the next three Lilac Time records. Glorious June pop they were, all of

them. The most vivid of them. Paradise Circus, was recently voted one of the Greatest Alternative Albums of All Time in a newspaper poll.

he charts, however. were no place for pop Evian, and, after each and every alburn bombed like a lead dodo, Fontana acted like a bunch of scab-gnawing weasels - and dropped him. Then they deleted his entire back catalogue. It's for this reason alone that, in our current climate of artistic re-evaluation, the Lilac Time haven't been rediscovered in the same way that

Nick Drake has. By now it was 1989, and Par-



Stephen Duffy (left) and Michael Giri of the Lilac Time, purveyors of warm, sensitive, perfect pop to an unheeding world

lophone's turn to sign Duffy. Having broken up the Lilac Time in a fit of depression, he decided to make his Hill Walk even more interesting, and teamed up with the widely derided violinist Nigel Kennedy. To make a psychedelic progrock album. In 1990.

"They were the grunge years," Duffy recalls, shrugging. "Everything was loud and mud-coloured. And I was, well, you know."

He was, well, you know, fantastically, gibboningly insane. The album, Music in Colours. sounds like a caravan of gypsies exploding on their way to the Moon. Rarely has a songwriter sounded so overcome by his own music.

Rarely has an album died so fully. Parlophone acted like a shoal of startled mackerel and dumped him. Duffy ran away to Alaska, and came back with I Love My Friends. an intimate, self-excoriating alburn about past lovers and dead parents. His new label, BMG, acted like a gang of ghost-spooked toddlers — and dropped him two weeks before it was released. However, when his current label, Cook-

ing Vinyl, released it, it was

voted one of the Albums of the

Year by The Times, Time Out,

The Independent and Tatler.

ed his new album Looking for a Day in the Night, in many ways the album of his life be-

Scene, Belle and Sebastian cited him as genius seed. People had started to tire of the dull plains, and were taking to the hills to find him. therapy: absolute redemptive And so Stephen re-formed

the Lilac Time and, with his advance of £5,000, mended his brother's garage roof. Under its newly tiled eaves he recordcause it's, well, the Album Of

Around the same time, the

School of Duffy started to grad-

uate: Suede, Ocean Colour

Family Coach tells the story of Christmas 1968 - The

Christmas when it snowed". All Over Again goes "Tomorrow I'll be dropped by BMG/ It doesn't bother me/l know underground stars can't fall further". Nursery Walls is Amazing Grace for lovers in

"I kind of know why I'm not in the charts," he says, ruefully. "I have a really quiet voice, and all really successful singers can kind of go 'Yarg'. The only songwriter with a quiet voice who's ever made it was Paul Simon. And he had the tall guy to go 'Yarg'." Looking for a Day in the Night

is released by Cooking Vinyl

All together

aving sold close to half a million alburns in just two vears. Stereophonics are one of modern British rock's rare success stories. Baffling highbrow critics as they storm the charts with every new release, the straight-talking traditionalism of this South Wales guitar trio seems to have tapped into a vast constituency of disenfranchised young rock fans almost overnight.

Singer Kelly Jones, especially, embodies the sort of wholesomely iconic frontman who could almost have been purpose-built by a record company marketing department. He is pretty enough to rival any boy-band pin-up, which may help to explain the excitable female contingent at the Plymouth Pavilions on Wednesday night, yet robustly mascu-line enough to win over a traditionally male rock audience too. His storytelling lyrics twang heartstrings while his songs blend the thunderous attack of heavy metal with a flair for rich, resonant melody.

But the singer's real secret weapon is his gruff, stirringly

LIVE GIGS Stereophonics -Plymouth

emotive voice. Crashing into high gear right from the opening number, Roll Up And Shine, his lungs scarcely had a chance to rest before The Bartender And The Thief catapulted him skywards once more. Only with the arrival of the trio's slightly less frenetic new single, Pick A Part That's New, did Jones switch into broody balladeer mode.

These lusty football-terrace anthems are clearly designed to be roared by vast crowds. The young rock tans of Plymouth duly screamed along to even the most obscure tracks from the band's recently re-leased second album, Performance And Cocktails. Stereophonics may not challenge their audience, but they certainly leave them feeling exhil-

STEPHEN DALTON

Sorry, chums

siahs or execrable antirock pariahs? Belle and Sebastian compel and repel in equal measures. But they were among friends at the Olympia. transformed into a thousandstrong church of happily lost souls who believe this Glasgow-based octet to be the apotheosis of the indie aesthetic and, in the afterglow of their successful Bowlie Weekender at Camber Sands, living proof that every underdog does ultimately have its day.

But the performance was not so much liturgical as just plain lethargic. Belle and Sebastian have always preferred to maintain a self-effacing anonymity rather than kowtow to the cult of personality. But the fact is that there were eight musicians pottering before us who collectively have the stage presence of a cardboard box.

And as the gig limped slow-ly on, one could palpably feel their self-mythologising mystique drain away, leaving us with what? A bunch of carefully crafted, literate pop songs

Duan

that can be pleasingly wry and witty but also selfconsciously clever. It's all rather bloodless and, there's no getting away from it. sexless.

The telling moment came near the end, when someone shouted a request for the Sex Pistols' Anarchy in the UK. Alive to the inherent criticism in such a barbed remark, Stuart Murdoch (main songwriter and singer) kicked over his mic stand and smashed his electric guitar on the floor of the stage. Brilliant, I thought: an ironic comment on the jaded histrionics of punk rock and an acknowledgement of his band's minuscule rock credentials. But then Murdoch ruined it: he apologised. That's the problem with Belle and Sebastian: ""their suffocating, strangulating politeness.

NICK KELLY

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AT A GLANCE SPECIAL OFFER FARES GILIDE

CHANGING TIMES

Siblings without rivalry Melky and Sedeck Jean are hot on he 21-year-old singer Melky Jean knows how time concern for both teenag-Two years in the making,

to make an impression. Last month, at her band's debut London gig at Ronnie Scott's, the larger-than-life New Yorker appeared on stage in a skintight top, micro shorts and a pair of thighhigh, leather boots.' Between fiery funk tracks with titles such as Shake It and High Heel Shoes, she would drop to the floor, throw back her huge mane of hair and writhe about on her back. When she later invited male members of the audience to join her on stage, only Radio I DJ Trevor Nelson was brave enough to accept her offer. As soon as the singer launched into hilarious lyrics about men being lousy lovers, however, the squirming jock must have wished he had stayed in his seat.

In a London hotel room, sitting alongside Sedeck, her 23-year-old brother and fellow band founder. Melky attributes her aggressive stage act to a childhood spent singing in church.

"When you perform for a Christian congregation," she says, "you have to be passionate. The aim is to share your emotions, to make other people feel what you are feeling." The only daughter of an ordained minister, at the age of six Melky was not only singing in church but directing the choir. Already she had spent two years fronting a family band, in which she was backed by her three elder brothers on guitar, bass and

"We were the Jacksons of the Christian community," she says. "When I was five, we moved from Brooklyn to New Jersey and became the house band of the local church." The children's strictly religious up-bringing meant that they could play only Christian music. "Pop was not allowed in our house," recalls Melky, who spent secret hours in her bedroom pretending to be Diana Ross. "We could listen to Christian rock though. We tricked our parents by telling them that Sting and Peter Gabriel were Christian singers, then when we performed their songs. I would change the lyrics to make them sound

The family's attempts to ban

the heels of their Fugees brother, Wyclef. Lisa Verrico reports



The component parts of Melky Sedeck: "I try not to imagine what my Dad would do if he saw me on stage"

pop backfired badly. The eldest son, Wyclef, went on to form the Fugees with his cousin. Pras Michel, and schoolmate Lauryn Hill. Second child Samuel is now an entertainment lawyer, while Sedeck became a studio engineer before teaming up with his sister four years ago.

At high school, both Melky and Sedeck excelled at public performance. Sedeck became a local debate champion, while Melky's first band, an eight-piece all-girl outfit, won a Sony Innovators Award

"I had written some songs, then found seven friends, who each sang in a different pitch. and taught them all the parts," she says. "One day, a teacher overheard us practising in the playground and asked if she

could enter us in a talent contest." The Sony Award led to Melky's hand being invited to perform in front of President Clinton and Desmond Tutu when the pair made an official visit to New Jersey. Subsequently, the singer was sent to study classical music and opera at a performing arts school, where it was discovered that she had a huge vocal

During a summer spent answering telephones in Wyclef's studio, Melky inadvertently heard a track written by Sedeck and asked to sing vocals

With a little help from the Fugees, the song ended up on the soundtrack to the hit American movie Love Jones, after which music became a full-

debut album, Sister & Brother. released in the UK next month, is a classy, midtempo mix of the siblings' many musical influences, including soul, hip hop, gospel, classical and opera. The album also contains a radical reworking of the Lulu B-side, To Sir, With Love, and a hidden track, Tragedy, which features Wyclef on guitar.
"Our songs are unusual be-

cause we grew up listening to gospel singers such as Mahalia Jackson and Tramaine Hawkins, but at the same time we snuck soul, rock and hip hop records into the house," explains Sedeck, who produced and played all of the instruments on the album.

espite the good-look-ing duo's distinctive sound, exciting live show and insider industry contacts, it took Melky Sedeck more than two years to secure a record deal.

Because we're black artists from New York, related to one of the Fugees, record companies kept asking us to rap," sighs Sedeck. "Most of them also wanted to take the classical piano and Melky's opera singing off the songs. We re-

Following a recent US tour with Black Eyed Peas, the band are currently supporting the Roots throughout Europe and comes to London in a fortnight to play a headline show at Subterania. One person who won't be in the audience, however, is the pair's father.

"Dad used to take us to a lot of Christian and gospel concerts when we were kids," says Sedeck, "but would never come to one of our shows. He won't even listen to our records. He believes that pop music goes against his religion." Not that Melky minds his absence.

"I try not to imagine what my dad would do if he saw me on stage," she says, suddenly sounding shy. "I think he would either pray for my soul or give up on God altogether."

 Sister & Brother is out on Universal on May 17. Melky Sedeck play at London Subterania, Wio (0181-960 4590) on May 17

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the best and Tarking to great Naemi Naemi Nadanra The flow in a special state. Control of the contro



Scuffed and down-at-heel

Head Music (Nude 14 EI5.99) THE end of the 1990s is proving a tough time for rock groups. In the face of increasingly stiff competition from a parade of dance acts, pop singers, stuffed toys and other con-

Superb Stereophonics
All together

tenders, the loyalty which has sustained the careers of so many long-running rock groups seems to be breaking down. New albums by Kula Shaker, Skunk Anansie, the Cranberries and Reef have all underperformed when compared to previous chart-topping achievements, and while Suede have weathered more than their share of crises, they could now be facing their most

That being so, it is unfortunate that they return to the fray with an album which, despite its melancholy charm, lacks the relentless sense of drive and destiny which was the hallmark of its three prede-cessors. On slow songs such as Asbestos and Hi-Fi, there is a dull sense of alienation -"Sulking on the subway/Listening to the trains" - while on Down Brett Anderson sings of a depression which encroaches on the perception of everything he sees, until eventually You draw the blinds

and blow your mind away". In a lighter vein, She's in Fashion and Elephant Man take wry swipes at superficial media celebrities and rapacious rock bands respectively, but do nothing to assuage the album's mood of world-weary cynicism.

New producer Steve Osborne brings a modern, electronic sheen to the sound, but he does not have a sympathetic ear for guitar textures, and the guitar and bass sounds are frequently tinny, tangled and over-treated, especially on the single, Electricity.

When it gels, as on the gor-geous ballad Everything Will Flow, the majestic He's Gone and the faintly Eastern-sounding Indian Strings, the old magic returns. But despite the evident craft with which Head Music has been assembled, there is a listless undercurrent pulling the music towards a point at which decadence gives way to dissipation.

LUNA The Days of Our Nights

(Beggars Banquet BBQ CD 209 £(5.99) YOU would imagine that, having toured with their heroes, the Velvet Underground, on their reunion dates of 1993, and recruited the late Sterling Morrison to play guitar on their 1994 album, Bewitched.



On Suede's new album, Head Music, a listless undercurrent apparently pulls the music towards a point at which decadence gives way to dissipation. Sounds like fun

anything else must be some-thing of an anti-climax for Luna. In fact, The Days of Our Nights is the American alternative-rock group's third album since then, and it sounds as gently intriguing as anything else they have done.

Singer and guitarist Dean Wareham exudes a resigned air of ennui on numbers such as Seven Steps to Satan — "The world is hard to understand/Inside my head it's rain-ing" -- while scuzzy slide guitars surf across the mix. It is pleasant enough for as long as the fix lasts, but the effect is curiously transitory. Even a version of the Guns N' Roses hit Sweet Child O' Mine is so restrained that it gains a new, contemplative dimension, but

ERIC BENÉT A Day in the Life (Warner Bros 9362-47370 E15.99)

LIKE most men of his calling, the soul singer Eric Benét is not slow to put his cards on the table when it comes to the se-duction game. "Now hike up that skirt and show me just

Soude: www.suede.net Lause www.beggars.com Eric Benét; www.wbr.com/ericbenet James Hardway:

es: BOC1, tonight

where I belong", he sings in a voice like sticky chocolate on That's Just My Way, the opening track of his second album, A Day in the Life.

Tempting as it is to dismiss the 29-year-old R&B star from Milwaukee as just another egotistical lothario, Benét is blessed with an unusually rich and supple voice, able to sustain a lazy, sensual croon on the jazzy When You Think of Me or take off into a frightening falsetto during Love the Hurt

An impressively varied cast f collaborators including Wyclef Jean, Roy Ayers and Faith Evans helps to keep the formula from becoming predictable. And, occasionally, when not bestowing his fa-vours on that special lady of

the moment, Benét reveals a philosophical side to his nature. Time waits for no one/It just moves on" he muses on Dust in the Wind. More than just a pretty face, then.

JAMES HARDWAY A Positive Sweat (Recordings of Substance HEMP 28 CDX £12.99) SALES of drum and bass records may have dried up, but that does not mean inspiration has gone the same way. James Hardway, the alter ego

CDs reviewed in The Times can be ordered from the Times Music Shop on 0345 023498

of London-born programmer

with his third album. A Positive Sweat. Having toured extensively

multi-instrumentalist

with his band, Hardway has established a rapport with the musicians that lends a "real life" energy to his distinctive fu-

David Harrow, continues to

push the frontiers forward

sion of jazz-noir horn arrangements and skittish, mechanically-generated tracks. The result, roughly speaking, is an amalgamation between the imaginary sound-track creations of Barry Adamson and the minimalist percus-

sive surge of Roni Size; posi-

L	(2) (1) (5)	Gold - Greatest Hits	Abba (Polydor)
ŧ	(1)	Equally Cursed and Blessed	Catatonia (Bianco Y Negro)
ì	(5)	You've Come a Long Way, Baby .	Fathoy Slim (Skint)
į	(4)	Talk on Corners	
į	(3)	Forgiven, not Forgotten	
ì	(6)	Performance and Cocktalis	
ř	(3) (6) (9)	Rides	
ì	iri	I've Bees Expecting You	Robbie Williams (Chrysalis)
ì		Fanmall	TLC (LaFace)
ï		Bury the Hatchet	Cranberries (Island US/Mercury)

● Figure in brackets indicates last week's position

Citizen of two worlds

NTSHUKS BONGA'S TOKOLOSHO

Aho Bhayi
(Nota Bene NBCD 001)
ONE of the latest of a distinguished line of South African jazz musicians who have made their homes in Britain. Ntshuks Bonga has deep roots in both the music of his home-land and free jazz, and each tradition is powerfully present

in this live sextet recording. Thus infectiously rollicking rhythms, woozy shuffles and melancholy laments jostle with growling free-for-alls and tear-it-up solo features showcasing the fruitily abrasive tenor of John Grieve, the leader's agile but passionate alto or the vigorous blare of Winston Roll-

JAZZ ALBUMS

ins's trombone, Hymnic, lilting melodies from Veryan Weston's piano lead to frantic front-line improvisations over boiling rhythm-section work from alternating drummers Mark Sanders and Brian Abrahams and bassist Julia Doyle.

Plaintive close-harmony horn themes spark off ram-bunctious, unfettered group interplay recalling Mingus's most rousing sexiet work. In short, Bonga's music is rich, passionate, exuberant and deeply affecting.

MATT WATES SEXTET

Smallbills Garage (Audio-B Ltd ABCD 9) DESCRIBED as "an album of contemporary West Coast jazz" on its cover, alto saxophonist Matt Wates's third sextet recording does recall, courtesy of its airy, bright, punchy approach, the music of 1950s California.

"Contemporary" is an "important qualifier, however: the playing of Wates's fromtline partners — trumpeter Martin Shaw and saxophonist/flautist Andy Panayi — is, in its polish and sophistication (not to mention its vigour and garrulity). very much a product of late-1990s London.

The rhythm section balances the experienced wit and poise of pianist John Pearce against the brisk, controlled power of drummer Steve Brown and the propulsive energy of label-supremo Malcolm Creese on bass. But it is Wates himself, both in the agile inventiveness of his alto playing and the jaunty cogency of his compositions, who makes this no-frills, totally unpretentious album such an unequivocal delight.

CHRIS PARKER

Arabian knight life

usic may well be the food of love, but the combination of listening and eating has never produced a particularly inspired soundtrack. An indigestible menu of dinner jazz. cabaret singers and tinkling cocktail pianists has become the standard fare. But now two of life's greatest sensual pleasures are being reunited in a radically different style at Momo, one of the West End's most voguish restaurants.
Frequented by the likes of

Stella McCartney, Naomi Campbell and Madonna, Momo specialises in North African cuisine, served up to an accompaniment of swirling Arab music. Situated in a quiet mews off Regent Street, it also boasts in its basement the If Arab music conquers the

world, Mourad Mazouz will

have done his bit

Kemia Bar. Here, banging dance mixes of Middle Eastern beats have made the Kemia one of the hottest properties on London's club scene. Now comes the album of the club of the restaurant. Compiled by Mourad Mazouz -

Momo to friends and customers alike - Arabesaue: A Momo Compilation is a thrilling collection which not only shows off the haunting vocals of the Egyptian-born Natacha Atlas, and the more traditional voices of Algerian rai stars such as Cheb Mami and Khaled, but also includes dynamic Western remixes of Arabic rhythms by the Stereo MCs, Tranquility Base and MC Sul-

Others have not been slow

to see the potential. Atlas's Gedida has received rave reviews in the mainstream music press for its evocative blend of Arabic mystery and flowing dance grooves. Even the major labels, usually the last to recognise a burgeoning under-ground scene, have jumped on the bandwagon. EMI last month released Camelspotting, a compilation of popular hits from the Levant including Nour el Ain (The Mind's Eye)



"Half of the world listens to Arab music," says restaurateur Mourad Mazouz. "But Britain knows nothing about it"

by the Egyptian singer Amr Diab, the biggest-selling single the Arab world has seen. "Every night people ask me

where they can get the music," Mazouz says. "I was going to start making my own tapes to give them but then I decided to make an album for everybody. All the customers we have come for the music as much as for the food."

Now in his mid-thirties, Mazouz was born to Berber parents in Algeria but moved to Paris when he was 16. He drifted into music PR and then spent five years backpacking around Africa. He also lived for a while in Indonesia. Back in Paris he opened his first bar at the age of 25 and put the music he had collected on his travels at the centre of the experience. Two acclaimed restaurants followed, where he further developed the Momo

When he opened in London in April 1997, Madonna booked Momo for a party on its first night (the builders were still finishing as the limousines pulled up). For the first three months Mazouz took charge of the decks before bringing in DJ Francis Peyrat, now as important a figure at Momo as its Moroccan chef, Richard Mevniel. "At first everybody could

WILLIAMSON

come in, but I didn't know the success we were going to have and we had to make it a membership club," Mazouz says. "But if you arrive and you are smiling and nice and interesting you will get in. The only people we try to avoid are the bankers. They come and think with their money they can buy

anything and we hate that." Later this year Mazouz will open a £1.5 million club in nearby Conduit Street as the original bar cannot cope with the regular queues outside. The new place will be somewhere you can eat and listen to music and talk and dance." he says. "It will be a more chilled atmosphere, a temple of sound.'

More Momo albums are in the pipeline. "This music is my roots," Mazouz says. "The idea was to make the record traditional but also accessible, with dance rhythms and so on. I want to surprise people.

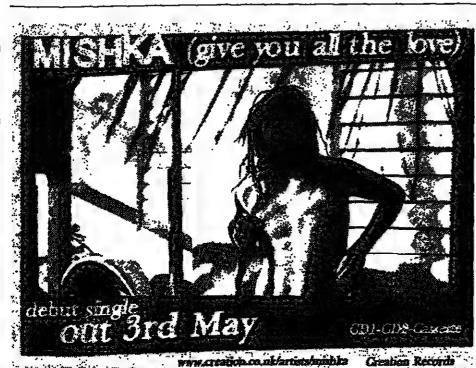
"It's not background music. it's integral to the experience. Half of the world listens to Arab music, but Britain knows nothing about it."

NIGEL

■ Arabesque — A Momo Compilation is released by Gut Records. Momo is at 25 Heddon Street, London W1 (017!-434 4040)

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ARTS

Around a railway station

DONALD COOPER

RECOMMENDED TODAY

Guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Martt Hargle

LONDON

cARMENt Bizet's sensual tragedy returns to English National Opera. American mezzo Phylis Pamoelita sings the trite role (Sally Burgess takes over later in the run), with Alan Woodrow as the hapless Don José. David Ritch directs this revival of Jonathan Miller's production. Michael Lloyd conducts. Colliseum (0171-632 8300). Opens tornorrow. 7pm. 6)

THE LAST THRASH: Sem Wallers joins his repertory company to play the Headmaster in David Cregan's me resomasser in Law's prep schools.

Dominic Hill directs.

Orango Tree (0181-940 3633).

Opens tonight, 7.45pm. (2)

DUKE ELLINGTON: The centenery calebrations continue with a free loyer event tonight by the Echoes of Ellington Big Band (5 15pm). A mara-Elington Big Band (5 15pm). A mara-thon programme iomorow culminates in two evening concerts in the Queen Etzabeth Hall. At 5.30pm Diego Mas-son conducts the London Sentonietta in a selection of recent music inspired by Elington, while at 8pm the Stan Tracey Big Band pays hornage to the great jazz-man in a concert of some of the beauthorium dumbers. South Bank (0171-960 4242). (2)

PALACE OPERA; The company's PALACE OFFICIAL THE CHIRARY S new production is a doubtle bill of two one-acters: Stravinsky's brutal but beauthal Oceanus Rea, and Massenet's rarely performed L3 Navariase Leah Houseman directs Anya Kubnok's

productions, Bloomsbury (0171-388 8822), Tonigh Jomorrow, May 4 and 5, 7,30pm, (§) ELSEWHERE



Diego Masson conducts

оживь. Doma (01273 709709), Tomorrow, 8ргг, (5) GLASGOW: The students of the

NEW WEST END SHOWS

Jeremy Kingston's choice of theatre showing in London

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY: Prunous
Scales and Timothy West head a
strong cast in Pinter's first full-length

■ SLEEP WITH ME: Penny Downs, Jonathan Hyde, Adman Luka in Hanli Kureshi's tragi-comic salire exposing the chaotic lives of a group of inends. Anthony Page directs. Cottestoe (0171-452 3000). ⑤

GLASGOW: The students of the Royal Socialish Academy of Missio and Drame put on the first of four performances of Benjame Britten's enduring comedy of rural English Be, Albert Hermig. William Reiton directs. The conductor is Tanothy Dean. New Albertaneous Theatra (0141-332 5057). Opens tomorrow, 7.15pm. Q.

use full, returns only N Some seats available 🗆 Seats at all prices

■ PLENTY: Case Blanchet plays David Hare's neroine in her years of dissent from 1943 to the 1960s, Jonathan Kent directs fast major resival for 21 years. Albery (0171-389 1749).

play, memorably joining comedy land menace, Joe Harmston directs. Plecadilly (0171-369 1734).

III MAMMA MIAb Engoyable musical that fells a tale of three fathers of a bride in order to siser a barmy way through a toment of Abba hits.

Phytical Lloyd directs.

Prince Edward (0171-447 5400).

SUDDENLY LAST SUMMER Shell Gish plays the venomous mother and Rachal Weisz the traumatised niece

in the suncus Transpasse Williams shocker, Sean Mathias directs. Comedy (0171-369 1731). MAKING NOISE QUIETLY: Domi-ric Dromgoole's Oxford Stage Co opens a London season with Robert Holman's trilogy of short plays where strangers meet at a time of way. Whitethall (0171-369 1735.

N THE GIN GAME: Dorothy Tutin and Joss Ackland play old folk in a retirement home whose card-playing styles ento their sad lives. Frith Banbury directs the Fulitzer winner. Savoy (0171-636 8888).

☐ THE DISPUTE: Superb production by Nell Bartlet of his translation of Marvaux enters four Impresoned adolescents meet the world and each other for the first time.

Lyrio, WS (0181-741 2311), [5]

L'I A SAINT SHE AINT: Barry Cryer and Jessica Martin in a perody MGM musical by Dick Vosburgh and Denis Knem, Ned Sherrin diracts, probably on a smaller budget than Hollywood, King's Head (0171-226 1916). (3)

FILMS ON GENERAL RELEASE

James Christopher's choice of the latest movies

NEW RELEASES

eXistenZ (15): Playful Aturistic homor from David "Crash" Gronentierg, Jude Low and Jennifer Jason Leight reality game where nothing is as it seems. A corny but fitfully thrilling Satire on exstentialism.

IN DREAMS (18): Annette Bening in DHEAMS (19); America beining plays a housewife whose dreams turn out to be premonitiona of a serial litter's interniona. The dream logic in Neil Jordan's craiting firm is termiying. The ecript is a resounding anticimes.

AT FIRST SIGHT (12): Val Kilmer's blind beelcake has his sight restored with traumatising consequences, lowin Winkler's film is far better exploring his distocation than massaging the ladious love interest. THE HONEST COURTESAN: (15):

Frothy Venetian romance where Catherine McCormack's leminist courtesan conquers Rukus Sewe countesan conquers Rusus Sewell and half of Venica with her busty charms.

SOLOMON & CARMOR (15): Love among the Welsh coal mines circa 1911. An ilica overblown romance between a young Jewish immigrant, loan Gruffudd, and prim local girl, Na. Roberts, Enchanting performances hold the romance in place.

THE WATERBOY (12): Weedy retard Adam Sendler turns into the ultimate college footballer. The satisfying

CURRENT

Brinn (18): Necolas Cage in his most magnetic role ever plays a private eye who sits the ugly facts surround-ing a snuff movia, Joel Schumacher

BESIEGED (PG): Bernardo Bertokucci's cinematic touch in this strange romance between David Thevisis and Thandis Newron is exquisitely light and subtle.

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE (12): A corked numbers with Kever Costner and Robin Wright Penn, Small talk is like breaking boulders. A tear-jerker. Take a life-jacket. Luis Mendoki directs.

KNOCK OFF (16): Van Damme thumps his way through a medley of long to stunts and satistic Russian

to save the world from crooks selling exploding leans, Ghastly,

MINADVENTURIES OF MARCARET (15): Brian Skeet's urban romance throws Parker Posey and Jeremy Northam into a diamet, sex-obsess potboller. It's awful.

A prince among savage men

alk about out-Rousseauing Rousseau. The noble savage Aphra Behn created in 1688 is infinitely noble, and savage only when he has a righteous battle to fight. Imagine a blend of Hector, Gawain and Sir Philip Sidney, but proudly African, and you have Oroonoko, the prince-madeslave that Biyi Bandele's adaptation and Gregory Doran's direction try to bring to life on a bare, sun-baked stage in Strat-

They are modestly successful in that effort, too, and no more sentimental than they are obliged to be. Mark you, the actor cast as Oroonoko, Nicholas Monu, must have blinked when he saw himself described in the original novella. Aphra Behn, who had an eye for a well-proportioned chap and as little colour prejudice as any 17th-century woman, declared that he radiated awe-inspiring beauty, plus courage, grace, intelligence, wit. "and all the civility of a well-bred great man". But if Monu could use a few dozen hours toning up in the gym. he certainly catches the character's honour and confident au-

thority. When Behm's tale was adapted by Thomas Southerne for the stage in 1696, he apparently ignored its first half, which set in Oroonoko's homeland. Bandele is right to restore this, and not only because it shows our hero's wife, Imoinda, being sold into slavery after upsetting the moribund king who impotently ex-



and Doran are able to create some sense of the civilisation from which Oroonoko, too, is abducted, and a true civilisation it is. You would not wish to get on its wrong side — a protection racketeer in the form of a Moorish ambassador is casually decapitated but you must admire its good order, its sense of propriety, its respect for tradition and (at least if you are into wise saws about yams, melons and fried plantain) its love of language.

ercises droit de seigneur. He

This represents Behn fairly, and might be fairer still. Why does Bandele offload much of the responsibility for the prince's enslavement on to a treacherous rival for the Coromantien throne, when the original story describes how Oroonoko's English friend invites him on to his boat for a feast, only to clap him and his fellow-warriors in irons? But when the second half switches the action to Surinam and its plantations there are enough examples of white duplicity. Behn, who had lived there herself, thought Oroonoko superior to his captors in every conceivable respect; and, even if Bandele regrettably omits the passage in which the prince single-handedly slays tigers, they make her point for her.

The acting is a bit uneven,



Slings and arrows: Nicholas Monu (Oroonoko) and Ewart James Walters (Akogun)

though Geff Francis, Jo Martin and Nadine Marshall do well. Again, it is a little absurd to dramatise an Indian uprising by bringing on one feathered figure to do aerobics in the dark. Yet again, Bandele might have attempted to give us Oroonoko's original end in

all its fierce heroism instead of sanitising the vomit-making facts. True, Behn was not quite the proto-Wilberforce that later generations imagined, for her prince regularly sold his foes to Europeans and even in Surinam seems willing to de-fend slavery's economics, if

not its brutalities. But she clearly believed that Africa had its titans too and that they did not merit humiliation, torture and death: surely a remarkable view for 1688. BENEDICT

NIGHTINGALE

Small but perfectly enunciated

larity is the chief quality of the modest staging of Elisir which the Music Theatre Kernow has brought to start its short season at the Bloomsbury. The programme deliberately refrains from printing a plot synopsis, stating that the stage should tell the story. The claim is justfied. The diction of the company of eight in a racy and very singable translation puts that of many a more illustrious company to shame. Anyone not quite sure why Nemorino eventually wins his Adina

has just not been listening. John Abulafia has updated the action to an Italian village just after the last war. There appears to be no special reason, except that it obviously saves on costumes. Oxfam or granny's provide. Strange, though, that Sgt Belcore should be recruiting for an army so recently defeated. Two small bouses with tiled roofs (designer

Miriam Nabarro) are constantly army arives in town. moved around the stage to suggest a busy village atmosphere, no easy matter when there is no chorus to speak of. few extras.

Fiona McAndrew, Dublin-born, Australian-educated and a graduate of the Guildhall, looks and sounds the singer destined to move on to higher things. The international background

has given her the confidence to bring out the haughty Adina's L'Elisir d'amore knowledge that she can play the whole male field around. Bloomsbury limited though that may be until the

Her soprano has plenty of flash and accomplished coloratura, although there is a bit of rawness around the Kernow might consider engaging a edges which needs attention. The final scene where Adina softens and accepts that true heart always wins fair lady was affectingly done.

Stripped of his conventional plumes and with no retinue of soldiery in support, Lucas de Jong had a hard time

making an impression of the dashing Belcore. But the bases of a solid baritone are there. Ian Jervis, who looked by far the most experienced of the cast, turned Dr Dulcamara into a down-at-heel buckster with a pannier of cheap grog attached to his ancient bicycle. The usual love potion of Bordeaux here becomes a mixture of rum and grappa. No wonder it works

swiftly. The Nemorino was weak: a neat and pleasing voice, but as yet with nothing like the panache of which Italian tenors are made. Nemorino may be timid, but not that timid. Jonathan Gill conducted.

JOHN HIGGINS

Girls in platform shoes

DANCE

maginative dance com-pany seeks adventurous theatregoers for stimulating one-to-one performance. Short-term relationship. Vivid memories guaranteed

Salome, the site-specific production closing this year's Spring Loaded festival, is the work of Susanne Thomas's Seven Sisters group, last seen in London's Waterloo station enacting a series of public arrival and departure vignettes. Clearly this troupe has a thing for railways. This time it has taken over a Victorian-Gothic tower at the marvellous St Pancras terminus. Only now, instead of being visible to all and sundry, the company members are exposing their art to a select few.

Eschewing narrative, Seven Sisters has concocted a moody. occasionally startling psychodesigner's meditation on the biblical tale of Salome, the woman who demanded John



the Baptist's head as a reward for dancing for Herod. The au-dience is admitted singly, guided by a red string overhead studded with silver arrow heads. With its patina of dust and grime, the setting reeks of dilapidated grandeur, dirty secrets and louche recollections.

In this maze of guilty rejection, madness and bruised desire you encounter a number of Salomes. The first are met traipsing up and down a magnificent stairwell, pop-exotic seductresses carrying empty silver trays and casting come-hither smiles. It's quick, flirtatious fun; only later you realise just how fatal these fleeting attractions could be. Film and video footage replaces human beings as you wander through rooms upstairs. "Linger if you like," a brisk redhead lies, for a moment later she's saying: "Chop. chop. Keep moving. And watch your head."

A squalid stair plunges you back down towards the building's dank bowels. A young woman rubs unhappily against a peeling wall, repeating the same, sad, fragmentary script of need and loss as if in a time-loop. The cellar contains a long corridor and a clutch of chambers. Here, in an atmosphere of eroticised bedlam and voyeuristic intimacy, is the rank meat of the performance. A wild woman smashes against reflective panels, then stares you down. One man cradles, then humps, a small television. Another executes his own manic mirrordance. A different, bird-like redhead chirps: "Do you like watching me?" The answer is a guarded yes.

DONALD HUTERA

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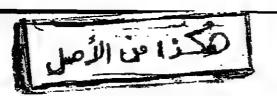
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'I know what people want'



Editor of The Sun David Yelland has confounded his critics by redefining the paper and raising sales to a two-year high, says Brian MacArthur

avid Yelland was II, a shy boy with a had wig the suffers from alopecia) when he announced to his parents that he was going to be a journalist. They told him not to be silly. Still determined to be a journalist ten years later, he got 48 rejection letters when he applied for a post on local newspapers. Only after six months on the dole did he finally get his first job on the week-ly Buckinghamshire Advertiser.

After that his rise was rapid.

Within 12 years he was Editor of

The Sun and he will soon celebrate his first year in the chair of Britain's biggest-selling national daily newspaper with sales at their highest level for two

Yelland, now 35, says he is used to proving people wrong. The critics when he was appointed dep-New York Post. He was an English-

man who had been in the city for only three years. Yet he flourished and fortune smiled on him - he was editing on the night Diana, Princess of Wales died in Paris. He also successfully introduced a new editorial treatment of big tragedies. "I imagined it was my friends who had been killed and therefore did it more sensitively and sold more papers," he told me when we met on Tuesday. "This is what I did with Jill Dando today. Read my leader, have a look at the respect we had for the family. Have a look at the big image on the front with a small headline. That will sell. I am not just being a nice guy. I know what people want." (For the record,

Dando's newspaperman father It wasn't only Rupert Murdoch.

The Sun put 19 reporters on the sto-

ry and devoted 17 pages to Dando's

murder. There was no Page 3 girl

and Yelland's leader concentrated

on the sympathy there would be for

chairman and chief executive of the News Corporation, which owns the New York Post — and is the parent company of The Times — who noticed Yelland and started dropping by his office. So, too, did Bob Wright, the top man at NBC who wanted Yelland as head of news at CNBC, the international business CNBC, the international business

Yelland was offered \$1.2 million over three years plus options in General Electric. Yet after a call from Murdoch, who made no counter offer, he decided to turn down CNBC. Six months later, he was Editor of The Sun.

As its courting by Tony Blair demonstrates, The Sun matters. One reason is that it sells 3.8 million copies a day and has nearly ten million readers. Another is that it sets the agenda of popuiar debate. The

Sun has the power

either to raise or de-

base popular taste.

As Yelland says, when The Sun gets it right, it cheers up the nation. When its judgments are wrong, there is hell to pay.

Its Editor, therefore, works in a goldfish bowl and is under constant scrutiny. Now, after 11 months, Yelland clearly considers that he and his newspaper are wilfully misunderstood. The Sun and News Corp get a burn rap all the time but we are Number 1 and it

comes with the territory", he says.

Although he has also refused to rise to the personal taunts of his mafor rival Piers Morgan, the Editor of The Mirror, they obviously upset him. He cannot help being bald. (He wore a wig from the age of II until he was 32 when, mainly because of the encouragement of his wife Tania, he decided to go topless. Even then he only summoned the courage to shed his wig by walking three times round the Post's Man-hattan building — but was reward-ed with a standing ovation when he

equally obsessed - for the death of entered the editorial conference.) Diana, Princess of Wales. Yelland's generation benefited from mass So what follows is Yelland's answers to the critics, his story of what has been achieved. See him higher education the has an ecodeliver a speech or meet him at nomics degree), it doesn't bash gays and it doesn't talk about Frogs Wapping and you quickly realise that his instincts are more cerebral and Krauts. Editorially it embraces the Internet, is on speaking terms than his predecessors, and that he represents a different generation with both the palaces, doesn't make up interviews and we certainly and faces different challenges. . His return to The Sun occurred won't see a Gotcha! It even offers after a difficult period for his prede-

free Monet prints. cessor Stuart Higgins. Sales of the tabloids were stiding. The Sun had made a political U-turn to back "The Sun will not succeed post-Diana if it is perceived to be nasty and vindictive," Yelland says. "The same happened in the supermarket Blair, and many readers blamed the tabloids — and particularly The tabloid market in the US and the Sun, though other tabloids were market collapsed. My move on

gays has been misunderstood. I was signalling a sea change. We no longer pursue and ridicule gays. I have forged a new relationship with the Palace and pledged not to invade their privacy.

Yelland returned to The Sun with a detailed agenda. One item was to make it the most important political paper in Britain. "I want The Sun to dictate the agenda, to lead, to cause a right old rumpus and to make The Sun Says (its leading article) the heart of the paper." He cites two front pages that caused the rumpus he seeks - one devoted to Blair and the single currency ("Is this the most dangerous

man in Britain?"), the other devoted to William Hague shown upside down as a parrot ("This party is no more ... it has ceased to be ... this is an EX-party'). He cites his campaign against the euro. The Sun's backing for Blair in Ireland and Scotland, and its campaigns on welfare reform and supermarket prices. Under Yelland, it feels a more

political paper. That has also been true of the Kosovo conflict, which has been characterised by such headlines as "Clobba Slobba". The Sun has strongly supported the air campaign but opposed a land invasion. It has been consistent in its support

ning. "The Sun must always and unreservedly support our troops."
Yelland also thought The Sun had lost its sense of humour. Another major item on that agenda was er major item on that agenda was to bring it back — which he has done with "Shaft", the new gossip column, "White Van Man", and such "crazy" ideas as The Sun prayer mat for England's World Cup games. Both Richard Littlejohn and Gary Bushell, two of the paper's star columnists, are now funnier and less cynical, he says. Another success Yelland Can see that he was the says of the says of the says of the says.

is the return of stories that have not been bought — among them Wills meets Camilla, Sophie and Edward to marry and a scoop on the Gulf bombing. He has also made personal visits to The Sun's regional offices to rebuild confidence in the heart of the paper - the news reporters.

The paper had become too downmarket and too full of crappy page leads. We needed to instil confidence in the reporters,"

Page 3 survives, however. His gut instinct, supported by market research, suggests that the paper would lose more readers than it gained if it was dropped, although the girls are less "white stiletto and Ann Summers" than they were.

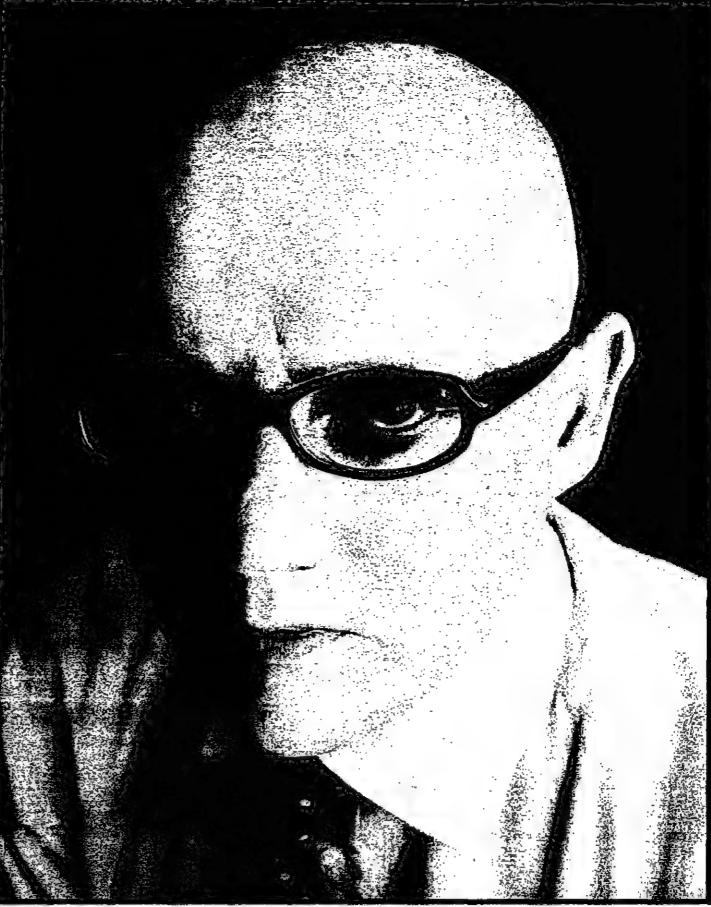
Complaints are now rare, he says.
"I said I would instil confidence, lead from the front, delegate, think (before leaders, before splashes) and not do another Hillsborough, another Gotcha! or make up interviews, Nobody has left since I got here which is not what we feared."

hen his wife was diagnosed with breast cancer a year ago, only was offered The Sun, Murdoch sold Yelland he could commute between London and New York on Concorde until the new year. In the event he commuted only for a few weeks but that gesture explains Yel-land's fierce loyalty to his boss. 'KRM has been superb to Tania," he says. That loyalty does not mean that he is Murdoch's mouthpiece, although he would not have been chosen if he did not share the same agenda. "There has never been a time when he has rung me or asked me to do anything," he says. "He has never dictated a headline or

said you should splash on this."
At its peak during the Thatcher years, when Kelvin MacKenzie's Sun sold more than four million copies a day with its mixture of genius, exuberance and cheek, The Sun captured the mood of an era. Blair's Britain is different. We are all allegedly middle class now and Andy Capp has a PC, owns shares, drinks chardonnay instead of beer, and holidays twice a year in Spain and Florida. So editors of the redtop tabloids must either reflect their readers' changing aspirations and lifestyles or see their sales wither.

Yelland undoubtedly made an uncertain start but the evidence of the past few months has been that The Sun is again finding its touch. settling into a new stride - and marching to Yelland's vision. Readers are responding. Sales are up again this month. But his critics will carry on sniping. Only last week, Ian Hargreaves, Professor of Journalism at Cardiff University, accused him in the New Statesman of giving birth to a "monstrosity" in his coverage of Nato's bombing of the refugees in Kosovo, a view that is clearly widely shared.

Yelland, nevertheless, thinks he knows the answers - and so far he has always proved his critics wrong. Can he do it again?



David Yelland: "I said I would instil confidence, lead from the front, delegate and think and not do another Hillsborough, another Gotchal'

Editors unite to stand up for press freedom

ewspaper editors compete. our courts and industrial tribu-That's what they are there for. They compete against each other and against TV, radio and the Internet. But competition - right across the media - can be a real weakness when it comes to defending the freedoms of journalism: which is where the new Society of Editors comes in.

Government ministers down the decades have asked the same perplexed question when editors went to put their case about pending changes to the law. "Who do you represent?" A simple question with an answer of migraine complexity. If you were a national editor, as I

was, you were probably part of some ad hoc group spatchcocked together by the Newspaper Publishers Association (or sailing under Press Complaints Commission col-ours). If you were a regional editor you were there for the Guild. And the Association of British Editors? Some nationals, some regionals. an array of broadcasters.

Now one Society, it is hoped, covers all. There were some flaccid assumptions behind the old disorder. National editors barely meet from one year's end to the next. They assumed that the power of their pen.and maybe of their proprietor, would dig them out of any le-gal pit. TV and radio editors have their own governors, or guvnors. That was all right for the high-profile fights on such topics as privacy laws. But what about the Youth Justice Bill, the Data Protection Act, extensions to the Prevention of Terrorism Act - or the silence enfolding

nais? The devils here - often unspotted by politicians until it is too late - are in the detail. The point of fighting a case is to fight it before Parliament's verdict. The touble with threats to free journalism is that they can arise in a local magistrates' court or a TV studio: and hearing about them is key.

So the Guild of Editors and the Association of British Editors have got together in a single Society after overwhelming votes for a merger. More than 400 editors from all disciplines are batting on the same side. The aim is to be part of the argument from the start.

Will it succeed? The other devil, competition, remains. But we are all on the same side of the freedom divide. The Society cares just as much about Whitehall whispering campaigns against John Simpson as it does about the clauses on Freedom of Information about to be un-

I remember, long ago, the then editor of the FT berating Lord Goodman of the NPA for a compromise his lordship was putting to the Government. "If this goes through, I shall denounce it in the Financial Times." he said. "That, sir, is a threat we shall have to bear bravely," said Goodman. Not good enough: now we can do better.

PETER PRESTON

 The author was Chairman of the Association of British Editors and is now Vice-President of the Society of Editors.

What presenter Nick Ross did next

JILL DANDO'S tragic death has ironically coincided with the rehabilitation of Nick Ross, her copresenter. Until three years ago he was a ubiquitous BBC presence hosting, alongside Crimewatch, Radio 4's axed Call Nick Ross, and Westminster with Nick Ross, plus BBC specials.

Always popular with main-stream audiences, he fell out of favour with backstage bosses. Some date the rot back to the time when he put a furning Sir John Birt, now outgoing Director-General, on the spot over BBC changes

before an audience at the Edinburgh Television Festival, Ross has just been lined up to chair a prestigious Radio 4 short series, The Commission, in August. And there's a growing band wanting to reinstate him

in regular prime slots. Call Nick Ross would do fine for starters.

NOTE that ITV was able to rush out a special on Dando last Monday at 8pm. upstaging BBC1's 9.35pm tribute, although the BBC's 8.6 million audience licked ITV's 7.8 million. There has been nothing of similar length on big news stories such as Kosovo despite pledges given when News at Ten was axed. All a sign of priori-ties. Is the ITC watching?

■DANDO is not being replaced as co-presenter of the Baftas next month. Michael Parkinson will shoulder the task alone. The BBC is also pulling Antique Inspectors, her new Sunday series. Instead Hugh Scully's Antiques Roadshow is being summoned up and he will pay tribute to her at the start of the show.

IT'S PUT-on-your-jackets time. lads, and smarten up. Tim Orchard, head of News 24, the BBC's £30-million-a-year news channel, tells me it is to be revamped and repositioned. The ghastly set, like a tile warehouse, is to be replaced to chime with the new look of the mainstream BBC1 Six O'Clock News, relaunching in ten days. The aim is to show that News 24 has authority and is part

of the BBC News family. It will

also deliver news on the hour, like other services. The presenters, yes, are to be told to put their jackets on, especially in the evening, when, says Orchard, viewers want their news to look "considered". Audiences for all rolling news services have risen, at some points tenfold in recent weeks, because of the stream of big news stories and the end of News at Ten. BBC research shows the typical News 24 viewer is a conservative 45, likely to be male who wants more sport.

In a related development, Katharine Everett, director of pro-gramming at BBC Choice, the other "free" BBC digital channel which started last September, is about to conduct a six-week analysis of how to reposition it. The view is that by trying to offer some-thing for everyone, the £20 million a year service has fallen into the trap of the old Radio 5 - viewers haven't a clue what it is about. It may opt for themed programmes. But a simple catch-up service of top BBC programmes, rather than low-cost experiments, suggested by Times media editor Raymond Snoddy, is back in favour.

■ BBC Television's top new publicity team, led by the Controller Sally Osman, is planning to import a controversial system of promoting programmes.

honed by her at Chan-nel 5. Called "fewer, bigger, better", only a handful of stars and output deemed to be the best and most representative of. BBCl or BBC2 will be given publicity. Stars who have caught whiff

of the plans are furious. The process was copied last year by ITV and is entrenched at Channel 4. The question is whether such a hard-nosed system is suited to a public-service broadcaster.

AFTER unseemly brawls at the recent British Press Awards, when tabloid editors alleged they had been "stitched up" by the broad-sheets, consider this. David Chipp, the distinguished former editor-in-chief of PA, is retiring as chairman of the judging commit-tee. His replacement? Well, a clutch of former editors. Tony Miles, Bernard Shrimsley, Donald Trelford etc are in the frame. But how about Kelvin MacKenzie? Impossible? "A breath of fresh air," says one mischievous com-



Jill Dando with Nick Ross who is poised to chair a Radio 4 series

mentator. It might also cure his newspaper itch. Radio industry professionals privately criticise the chief executive of Talk Radio for running it like a newspaper. changing from day to day, confus-

FOR the fourth year in a row Moray Forth Radio's kilted top team, led by an ebullient Thomas Prag, walked off with the Sony award for small station of the year. The secret of success (half the population in its catchment area tunes in regularly) is down to its close links with the community. It is currently running a "lamb bank" so that orphans can be matched up with broody ewes: 20 are looking for mums at present.

"WHEN I look before me i see a row of ex-bosses. I have more exbosses than ex-lovers." Gambaccini, Classic FM, hosting the Sony Radio Awards.

maggiebrown.media@

what the big story of the week has been. The undeclared war in Serbia may have reached a new intensity. A new front in a violent age may have opened up with indiscriminate bombings apparently aimed at ethnic minorities.

But it was the murder of the BBC presenter Jill Dando outside her Fulham home that attracted by far the greatest attention. It was, of course, a shock-

ing and rare event but the scale of the media reaction still requires some explanation. Why did the Daily Mail, for example, think the story was worth il pages and The Sun 17, and why was The Sun still devoting six pages to the follow-ups Wednesday? Why was there an instant special on ITV, a channel she had nev-

er worked for. as well as one on BBCI? Ironically news of Danbroke audience

records BBC1's Six O'Clock News. the programme

that she once presented. The II million figure beat, by a small margin, Queen's tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales. Much of the interest, and

the emotional intensity, is understandable. An attractive, talented, young women who has probably appeared in every home in the land at one time or another through the programmes she presented is inexplicably cut down. For good measure she was a famous person who had remained genuinely nice, who did charitable works and was about to get married. The plausible motives for

her murder would keep a thriller writer busy for months. They range from Serbian revenge for the bombing of the Belgrade television station - she presented the television appeal for the Kosovan refugees contract killing ordered by someone brought to justice by Crimewatch, one of the programmes she presented.

The only certainty about her death is that the casual fame bestowed by television is deeply implicated in some

Yet there is something more in the reaction. Her death has touched a public

There is no doubt nerve in the way that the Princess's did.

The flowers are piling up outside her home complete with personal, emotional messages. The links are being explicitly made. "Can anyone tell us why we have lost another English rose?" one card read. There can be only one ex-

planation for why people have reacted so emotionally to the deaths of those they are unlikely to have met the power of television to canonise those who are both blonde and good and who have been found acceptable in a million living rooms.

■ By coincidence one of the largest studies of how audiences interact with TV was published vesterday by the British Film Institute Two researchers, David Gauntlett and Annette Hill,

spent five years gathering information from 500 viewers, 500

aged 9 to 90.

The report, TV Living, has a great deal to say about how important an influence television can be. The researchers found that many rethought of television as a kind of

companion or even friend. For the elderly, television was particularly important. providing comfort in times of illness and grief.

Detailed diaries, com-

piled three times a year, indicated that the previous distinctions between the tastes of men and women are breaking down. More men are taking an interest in soap operas, while women are just as interested as men in news and current affairs. Not everything has changed, though. Men still like to hold on to the remote control even when there has

been discussion about what Perhaps the most optimistic finding is that Britons are not a nation of hopeless ch potatoes. quite consciously regulate how much television they watch and feel guilty if they think they are "seduced"

● TV Living: Television, Culture and Everyday Life by David Gauntlett and Annette Hill is published by Routledge, £14.99 (hard-

into watching too much.



Yegor Shishkovsky, DJ with a huge following. "There are 94 million listeners to Radio Russia — you can't ignore a market like that. In six years it won't be a static economy."

The DJ with 40m fans

From a studio in Soho, Yegor Shishkovsky rules the airwaves in his native Russia. Janie Lawrence reports

eated in a Soho café, the Rus-sian DJ Yegor Shishkovsky attracts some whispered interest from the contracts est from two women at a nearby table. The floppy fringe, which gives him a passing resemblance to Leonardo DiCaprio, has them temporarily fooled. Ironically, were we in Russia, this 29-year-old Muscovite would evoke a similar reaction in his own right. Last month at the Moscow International and Tourism Travel Fair (Mitt) several thousand devotees queued up for his autograph.

Given his anonymity here, it is hard to grasp the influence Shishkovsky wields. If the figures are to be believed then he has the largest radio audience in the world. Every Tuesday night 40 million people tune in to his show, Napryamoyu Zapada (Live from the West), which is broadcast on Radio Russia live from London.

Simultaneously broadcast on the Internet, his audience covers 11 time zones, taking in a land that extends from the base of Finland to the top of Japan. "When you go out of Moscow it's like nothing is going on." says Shishkovsky. "Live from the West is their only window to know what's going on in Western music." Each week listeners send an aver-

Shishkovsky's show. (Recorded in English, they are then given a Russian voiceover.) direct because they know they have

fans over there," says Shishkovsky. 'Record company PRs like Sony's are just business-orientated and not helpful because they say it will boost pirate sales - not legitimate sales." A graduate of Moscow State University, Shishkovsky took a journal-

age of 2,000 letters and photos (regularly pouting women in bikinis) to his

Russian mailbox number. There is

even the Yegor Shishkovsky website

(www.yegor.com). The show, broad-

cast from Angell Sound, a studio in

Central London, is a mixture of West-

ern music, social trends and Holly-

wood gossip. Artists such as Roxette,

Celine Dion and Boy George have all

made time to be interviewed on

ism degree course that lasted five years. "Education was free and we had a grant. We could have done it in three years, but we had to study subjects such as the history of the Com-

munist press and scientific Marxism. The books were anti-Western: we were told the communist press was free but Western press had to write what the papers' owners dictated."

While a student, he talked his way into presenting his own show on Radio Yunost (Youth). Shishkovsky believes the 45-minute slot on a Sunday afternoon was the first Russian programme to concentrate wholly on Western music. Initially, at least, offerings such as Material Girl did not impress his employers. "Every Monday my

would get a call from the boss of the company asking Why are you playing Madonna and Michael Jackson? They are the worst examples of decadent Western culture.' Although Gorbachev was in power it took a long time before glasnost and perestroika went through all levels of

society, especially the media."

Meanwhile, Shishkovsky's journalist father. Vsevlod, had been sent to London as the Russian TV political correspondent. Over here on a visit,

Shishkovsky contacted GLR, the BBC's London radio station, and with one of its producers, Paul Leaper. had the idea of Live from the West. It took two years for the project to take off: Shishkovsky negotiated with various Russian stations while Leaper anempted to get British sponsorship. "We-had to keep bashing

date, sponsors have ranged from the RJR company (Shredded Wheat, Camel cigarettes) to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (Know-How Fund) and, until recently, the British Tourist Authority. Six weeks ago the tourist authority pulled out, having decided to stop promoting Britain to Russians. Now the show is without a financial backer.

away." says Leaper.

Leaper, however, remains optimistic that he will be able to attract a company interested in building a relationship with Russia. "Radio Russia has 94 million listeners," he argues. "You can't ignore a market like that. In the

next six years it won't be a static economy. For a Western company, our production costs are a drop in the ocean." Certainly the audience profile has a decent percentage of what Shishkovsky terms "New Russians". He says: "They travel a lot, have mobile phones, drive BMWs and listen to the latest music." Perfect fodder for advertisers? "Yes they're business-men," he laughs, "or in the mafia."

Shishkovsky's show can be heard in Serbia — but the subject of the conflict has only been touched on once when he had: to announce that the American rock band Kiss had callcelled its Russian concerts because of the anti-American feeling. Was he tempted to add any other comments? "No — politics is too dangerous. And it is not that type of show."

Shishkovsky is more forthright on the quality of Russian music. "There's an element of national pride so there are some stations that only play Russian music. But it's terrible, I can't listen to it."

Until now his success has remained a secret in this country. But it can't be too long before someone decides that an educated Russian with pop star looks could be put to equally good use in the British media.

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CHANGING TIMES

Who says creativity matters?

WE ALL know the Smirnoff ads: clever posters and commercials that show a different image, a quirky side of everyday life when viewed through the mind-altering perspective of a Smirnoff bottle.

What's more, those same posters could be seen in cities around the world. Smirnoff came to be regarded as the model of a global advertising campaign: the ads were effective in that they sold vodka, but they were also a great chance to do great creative work for the ad agency involved.

So there was huge surprise in the ad industry this week when Smirnoff's parent company UDV fired the Lowe Group from the £100 million worldwide account to move the business to J Walter Thompson, giving it the Bai-leys and Malibu brands, too. UDV emphasised that "it

has been entirely satisfied with Lowe's performance", which is rubbish, or else why would the business be moving? However, there genuinely does not appear to be criticism of the work, so why would a client end a flourishing relationship after seven years?

The answer depends on which side you talk to. UDV, as a Diageo subsidiary, is midway through a programme of cost savings pledged at the time of the Grand Metropolitan merger with Guinness.

Certainly, there appears to have been an unresolved financial negotiation regarding future terms. With this move, UDV's international roster is pared down

to two agencies (Leo Burnett being the other). However, UDV marketers are known to have been unhappy with both the time it takes to get work out of Lowe, and the cost: not so much the fees. but the huge production budgets involved, particularly for commercials.

In microcosm, this firing represents the current state of the ad industry. The real end product, the creative work, appears

to be failing further down the agenda of what marketers want from their ad agencies... Decisions are being taken way over the heads of local marketing directors by a combination of their international counterparts and the new demon, the procurement director.

In short, advertising is be-



coming a commodity. Cost is being confused with value. The other trend is towards the increased power of the international organisation and the senior executives within them, both at client and agency end.

Once, a "European" prefix to a job title was regarded as the advertising equivalent of the elephant's graveyard. Today these are the men (and they are almost exclusively

ternational relationships and long-term account handling abilities grow at the expense of creative excellence, the outlook is rosy for agencies such as JWT, McCann-Erickson and Leo Burnett. A lack of success with local clients (this

None of this should detract

from the achievement of JWT

in landing the business. As in-

week JWT lost the £18 million UK Barclays account) can be masked by the strength of the international network. The trouble is that this depresses many people who work in London

agencies. They were attracted to their jobs by the chance to create work such as Smirnoff in agencies like Lowe Howard-Spink in a London marketplace regarded as the best worldwide.

Lowe is too good not to get a new drinks client. And JWT is surely too good to waste the chance to produce creative and trais in the London ad industry will be saddened by the week's events.

HOW about this for a difficult campaign: persuade the public that benefit fraud is wrong by instigating a long-term shift in social attitudes. It's a big step away from the

last Tory Government's approach: shop your neighbours if you suspect them of benefit fraud. That threw up a large number of fraudulent claims. but it also stirred a hornets' nest of false and vindictive reports. If the new plan sounds. familiar, it may be because the template is the 20-year-long anti-drink-drive initiative. There is little doubt that atti-

tudes to drink-driving have hardened but there is a big difference between the two: it is difficult to see how one person's benefit fraud is another's potential death in the way that drink-driving is.

 Stefano Hatfield is the Editor of Campaign

shopping needed to be made more attractive

AS CONSUMERS become more aware of the Internet, businesses are starting to realise the potential of e-commerce, although many have yet to develop online transactional services.

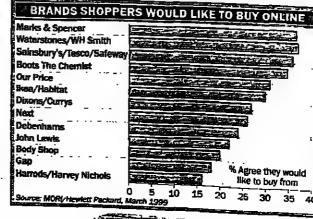
A survey by Verdict Research in January found that although 47 of the UK's top 100 retailers had websites, only 14 per cent of these allowed transactions

Three quarters of the UK population have yet to make a purchase through the Internet, although not necessarily because they are not interested in electronic shopping, according to a recent MORI survey in association with Hewlett Packard. Some 85 per cent of respondents said that they would consider buying products or services through the Internet. More than half the users, however, felt that online

and simple. Flights, holidays and cinema or. theatre tickets are the most popular items being sold electronically, followed by computer hardware and software.

Almost 60 per cent of consumers said they were surprised that major retailers did not offer the option of buying online. Of the brands covered by the survey, Marks & Spencer was the company customers would most like to buyfrom (37 per cent), followed by WH Smith and Waterstone's, and the main supermarkets, Sainsbury's, Tesco and Safeway.

■ MediaTel's online media information and analysis service is accessed via the Internet at http://www.mediatel.co.uk (0171-439 7575)



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Carol Midgley reports on M's drive ofill its long ashings.

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media times

Wannabe Friends?

Carol Midgley reports on ITV's drive to fill its long evenings

TIMES TRIDAY APRIL 30 1999

rund a railway station

t 9pm tonight Chan-nel 4 will screen its regular weekly epi-sode of the American sitcom Friends. An hour later ITV will screen what

ordid arguably be described as its real-life double. Desperately Seeking Star-dom is a new docusoap set in the Hollywood Hills in which the characters have been unashamedly cast in the mould of America's most successful comedy. The three men and three women (two of whom bear a rather too obvious re-semblance to Ross and Rachel) were picked from 500 wannabes who applied to star in the eight-part documentary series in the hope that it will deliver them the fame they crave.

St Pancas

Publicity pictures have been shot in the classic Friends poses (see picture) and the theme music is suspiciously similar. But perhaps the most signifi-cant point about the pro-gramme is that it illustrates the drive by ITV's director of programmes, David Liddiment, to make the network younger and more upwardly mobile while retaining mass appeal. It will air at 10pm the slot vacated by News at Ten and contains the glitz of a tra-ditional Friday night TIV pro-gramme but with a deter-minedly middle-class ap-proach. It is also aimed at the dream 16 to 34 age bracket that has eluded ITV in the past thanks largely to its dated, tacky game-show image. In fact ITV's schedule this evening could practically be Channel 4's. Desperately Seeking Stardom rums after Britain's Richest Kids at 9pm, a quirky one-hour special about affluent youth, followed at 10.30pm by Strassman, an alternative comedy show featuring a sarcastic, foul-mouthed

ventriloquist's dummy.

David Green, the head of September Films, which made Desperately Seeking Stardom, says the emphasis on middle-class glamour had been deliberate. September not know each other before the stripping off for Playboy TV). audience. It is a youthful, posiwas behind the documentary series began but agree to live "The Friday night schedule tive, upbeat series that does and high fives.



Two of the ste young hopefuls seeking stardom on ITV's "hip new programme" bear a resemblance to Friends' Ross and Rachel

series that included Hollywood Women, Hollywood Men and Hollywood Pets, but Green insists it is not a continuation of the brand,

"We were unashamed about making this young, glossy and aspirational, and the Friends connection was not far from our mind. We have picked beautiful people to fit in with the whole Friends/Sex and the

cause David Liddiment and Grant Mansfield were looking for a mass appeal series to pick up that big audience but with a modern, feelgood factor."

The six participants — four Americans, two British - did in a house together for three months while they try to make it as actors in Hollywood. The series follows their differing fortunes and offers the intriguing prospect of so many big egos sharing one house.

MV hopes the series will hook viewers from the start and deliver a regular and youthful following. It may, however, suffer from the fact City/Ally McBeal thing. _____ "It was commissioned bethat a chunk of its target audience will be watching Frasier at 10pm on Channel 4.

Thanks to the late scheduling (10pm is the latest a docusoap has been broadcast) the series retains a few choice four-letter words and some nudity (one of the girls ends up

shows how times have have a sense of Friends about changed at ITV," says Green. This sort of stuff used to be the sole territory of BBC2 and Channel 4. It is new, hip and brave. The point about ITV is that it has to capture a mass audience and a 30 to 45 per cent share but it also wants to

draw in the younger viewer." The six participants are al-ready minor stars. They ar-rived in London this week and were to appear today on The Big Breakfast, This Morning with Richard and Judy, and The Ant and Dec Show.

Grant Mansfield, ITV's controller of documentaries, features and arts, says: "It is an attempt to target a younger audience. It is a youthful, posi- lows is not an orgy of hugs

it. But it is an adult pop-doc series, and for me that is the most interesting thing about it. Some of the most popular documentary series, such as Driving School, have been de-signed for a family audience, but this was definitely not."

"However, it is not necessarily typical of what will be in the 10pm slot on Fridays. The schedule around that time is still evolving." Comparisons with Friends

stretch only so far, however. Happily, in the final episode as the six prepare to move out of the house, they are asked their real opinions of each other. Suffice to say that what fol-

loud-mouthed image. "She im-mediately stopped wearing all

her Ginger Spice stuff."
Dineen reacts with horror to suggestions that her film is deliberately unflattering. After all viewers are treated to footage of Halliwell's shockingly inarticulate performance at the United Nations press con-ference at which she an-

"What will you say if they ask you if you're happy after leaving the Spice Girls? asks a PR flunky before the UN con-ference. "I'll go deep on them, and ask what is happiness?"

hars not what I meant it to be like," Dineen argues. She concedes, however, that the film was edited to illustrate Halliwell's apparent loneti-ness. This is crudely illustrated during the final scenes, which show her Rollerblading alone around a vast, empty

At one point, Dineen asks Halliwell if she has any "ordi-

We just can't get enough of the rich

So says Philip Beresford, the compiler of The Sunday Times's list of Britain's wealthiest people

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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Imiting the rich has always been a Fleet Street obsession, but it has now moved to a new plane. Earlier this month the papers were full of rich lists. First there was the Asian 200 in Eastern Eye, a weekly newspaper, which was splashed over every national newspaper. A few days later we had the annual Sunday Times Rich List, now in its eleventh year and bigger than ever, with 1,000 names. On the same Sunday The Observer entered the fray for the first The Observer entered the fray for the first time with its list of the 100 young rich, from

aristocrats to Internet millionaires.

As the compiler of two of the above lists (Eastern Eye and Sunday Times) I am amazed at the British public's continued fascination with the rich. Not only does my e-mail bulge with messages after each list, but letters

pour in from around the world with suggestions for new names and queries on pubished "victims"

Times recorded a sale of 1.512 million on Rich List Sun-day, April 11, one of the highest circulations in modern times, and certainly the best yet achieved by such an issue. The Observer recorded a 20,000 increase in sales that Sunday on the previous week, while at Eastern Eye the issue sold out; its pub-lisher, Sarwar Ahmed (who went on 40 TV and radio stations to talk

Circulation of the 1999 Rich List topped 1.5m about the Asian 200) reckoned that the publicity to the paper was worth perhaps

£300,000 to £400,000. But list journalism is not without its critics. There is the privacy issue raised both by rival newspaper columnists and many on the list itself. Yet much of the information is drawn from public sources (papers, magazines, Companies House and a host of reference books). Where information is not in the public domain, it has been freely volunteered by around 200 (and growing) of the 1,000 people in the Sunday Times list.

So keen are some people to demonstrate their asset wealth that I have to curb their enthusiasm. A sense of responsibility forbids me giving details of the couple who sent me photocopied statements of their "his and her" more than £1 million. I also never give any hints as to where the rich live, although such information is available on many databases, and newspaper property pages often give pre-

cise locations as to where a tycoon has pur-chased a multimillion-pound property. Critics also carp that we never get it right and that most of those listed are far richer than we state. The latter is almost certainly true. In my experience many of the super-rich

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have far more private assets than we can see in the public domain. More and more are vol-unteering details of these assets. Constant refining and improved research helps me to get better each year. Last year, for example, we put the assets of a leisure magnate at £55 million. Two months after the 1998 list came

out he sold those interests— for £55 million. But howlers do slip through. Friends and critics will never let me forget the presence of Robert Maxwell in early lists. My only defence was that I was in good company in those days, with most of the City also mark-

ing Maxwell as a near-billionaire. In recent lists most of the problems stem from newspaper cuttings and other sources that may contain errors. This year The Sunday Times put a director of a mobile phone

list. The information was drawn from a normally re-liable and expensive reference work, which put his stake at more 中国、全国国际 shares. Alas, it is a tenth of that.

The lists can also unwittingly enter family minefields. The wrong person listed as head of the family can provoke a furious response -from both sides. My favourite sto-

ry about this year's list concerns a Welsh magnate estimated to be worth £40 million. My spy reports that it was the talk of his factory and

town that he had appeared in the list. He was heard muttering about right" on the figure, and gave his staff a small bonus.

More seriously, the notion of listing the profitability and wealth of many family-run businesses around the country does. I believe, make for a healthier Britain. Twenty years ago such information was deemed almost a state secret by local magnates. Now his or her staff who buy or hear about the Sunday Times Rich List know exactly how the "gaffer" is doing. It encourages more "gaffers" to greater openness with their staff and perhaps breaks down the old "them and us" culture. Encouraging, too, is the notion that in places such as that Welsh plant the staff took pride in what they had helped to achieve.

Certainly the "them and us" culture is rare ly found in the Asian community or among the young entrepreneurs featured in The Observer. Indeed. Internet and software millionaires take an "American" attitude to wealth: proud to have made it through their own skill. And one candidate for the Asian list was keen for me to see his tax returns for the past five years, such was his enthusiasm to be listed. My life would be much easier if all 1,000 on the Sunday Times list felt the same.

How Ginger's life lost its spice

ing of Geri: The Girl Can't Help It, a "home video" of Geri Halliwell's life since her exit from the Spice Girls.

Halliwell declared one morning that she no longer wanted to take part, leaving Molly Dineen, the celebrated documentary-maker she had chosen to make the film, with hours of wasted footage. But after a confrontation with Dineen, and much flinging of handbags. Halliwell agreed to press ahead with the project.

Anyone who tunes in to Channel 4 next Wednesday at 9pm will understand the reasons for Halliwell's moment of doubt. As Dineen admits, the film shows her living "a very isolated, lonely, unreal life". Halliwell should have ex-

pected nothing less from 40-year-old Dineen, who made her name producing films such as The Ark, an unflattering study of London Zoo. Perhaps the ginger one was deceived by her recent "fly-on-the-wall" documentary about Tony Blair, which was used as a party political broad-

cast by the Labour Party. Many viewers who sit through Geri will, however, be disappointed that the film does not explain why Halliwell gave

A TV documentary portrays Geri Halliwell as a deeply lonely former pop icon, says Chris Ayres



As any tabloid Going solo: Geri Halliwell with her dog, Harry

reader knows. Halliwell, now 26, has gone on to re-lease her first solo single, Look At Me, to mixed reviews. According to Dineen, her subject does not enjoy being reminded of the traumatic period that followed her exit from one of Brit-

one particular mem-

ber of the band warn-

ed her out.

producing the film involved endless battles over editorial control with Halliwell's battalion of advisers.

Dineen admits that her relationship with the singer is "much rockier" than before. ain's most popular, and profit-able, pop acts. She adds that friendship, however, and even George Michael, Halliwell's friend, reportedly admits that the film is an incredibly accurate portrayal".

Dincen's film be-gins with news clips about Halliwell's departure from the Spice Girls — a story that broke on a quiet Sunday, thus ensuring maximum coverage. It then looking pale and dishevelled, coming to terms with her new life in a Paris hotel room.

From that moment on, the viewer is introduced to an , Harry apparently deeply lonely and self-obsessed individual, surround-

ed by obsequious flunkies. "That period was a purgatory for her," says Dineen, who claims that the washed-out image that Halliwell then adopted was an accident. It was a psychological reaction, she says, to her micro-skirted,

nounced her appointment as a "goodwill ambassador", and her tragicomic discussions with her FR advisers.

she responds triumphantly.

nary" friends. "They have their own lives," she replies. "I want them to come and see

Sex and Shopping returns to C5

CHANNEL 5 will defy the Independent Television Commission by running a second series of its Sex and Shopping documentaries about pornography that the ITC denounced as tacky and voyeuristic Chris Shaw, the channel's head of documentaries, told Press Gazette that the ITC misunderstood the intention of the series, which was to spark debate on one of the world's biggest leisure industries. The second series will be about exploitation and the links between sex and commerce.

■ THE TV commercials production company formed 11 years ago by Mel Smith and Griff Rhys Jones will close in the summer, reports Campaign. Trevor Evans, the managing director of Smith Jones Campbell, said commissions were becoming fewer and less profitable and that Smith was more interested in directing feature films. About half of the staff of ten are expected to join Evans in a new venture.

ILL DANDO'S murzines to make last-

der forced three magaminute changes, says Press Gazette. The Mirror cancelled the cover story on its Saturday magazine, an interview

with the star about her planned marriage that was incorporated into the paper's coverage BBC Homes and Antiques pulled a fourpage interview from its June issue and IPC's Now brought forward its interview with Dando - her last - that was scheduled for a later date.

THE LAUNCH PAD: Gruner & Jahr and Haymarket jointly plan wornen's motoring title, code-named Project Daisy (Campaign). May de-but of Men's Fitness

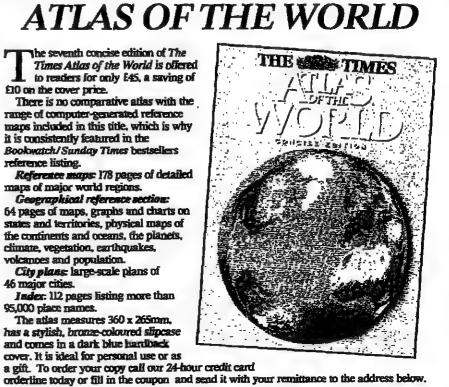
postponed to June after Editor Stephen Ferns quits (Marketing).

CHANGING FACES: Joe Houlihan, executive producer, to be head of documentaries at LWT (Broadcast). Chris Sutcliffe from Bates Dorland to join Universal McCann as strategic planning director; Guy Laurence of Planet

Hollywood appointed sales and marketing director for ONdigital; Turner Entertainment Networks hires Simon Cox from CIA Medianerwork as its UK sales controller (Media Week).

GETTING THE BUSINESS: J. Walter Thompson wins £60 million Elizabeth Arden account but drops out of pitch for Barclays' corporate business: EURO RSWG loses & million account for Lakeside shopping centre (Marketing Week). New Zealand Tourism Board appoints M & C Saatchi to £18.7 million global account (Marketing). Carat tipped to win UDV's strategic planning business from Western egic planning husiness from Western International Media (Media Week).

MICHAEL LEAPMAN



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GHANGING TIMES

The real life of Brian

Andrew Cameron, a former Express Newspapers chief, on Brian Hitchen's brush with death



rian Hitchen, who succeeded Eve Pol-lard as the Editor of the Sunday Express, took pride in being to the right of Genghis Khan on a number of issues. The scourge of yobs or issues. The scourge of yous and scroungers, a dedicated Tory and a champion of capital punishment — he was "hang and flog 'em Brian".

Short, bald with a broad

shiny face and a winning smile, Brian was a great news-hound. He had been around Fleet Street for many years, including a stint as Editor of the Daily Star, from which he was plucked in 1994 to become Editor of the Sunday Express.

The morale of the Sunday Express staff was at an all-time low. They had been pounded and denigrated. They needed a strong leader to restore their confidence, and Brian set about this task with gusto. Very soon morale was high and the paper moving in a pos-

Earlier in his career, as the Daily Mirror foreign corre-spondent, he had covered the

Vietnam War, and saw much. pain and misery. He had also suffered some pain and mis-ery himself. In his early forties, after feeling unwell, he was whisked into hospital to have a quadruple heart bypass. Twenty years later he is still going strong, smoking enormous cigars with relish and downing whiskies of a

true Irish measure. He was a fine friend, loyal and honourable, and I loved him dearly. He supported his staff through thick and thin. On one occasion, after a photog-rapher was dismissed, I found out that Brian had continued to commission him and made sure he was properly paid. Bri-an found it difficult to see a dark side in any journalist.

His views on managers and proprietors were less generous. He viewed them with suspicion, believing they too often exuded incompetence or self-interest. He particularly disliked Lord Ampthill, the deputy chairman of United Newspapers, which owned Express Newspa-



Twenty years later after his heart bypass, Hitchen is still going strong and smoking enormous cigars with relish

pers, an antipathy compounded in 1995 after he became con-vinced that Ampthill was the source of his undoing as Editor

of the Sunday Express.

As Geoffrey Russell, Ampthill had been at the centre of the "Russell baby case", in which the third Lord Ampthili claimed that Geoffrey was not his son as the marriage had not been consummated. Geoffrey's mother, Christabel, gave evidence that she had not had sex with any other man and that conception had been as a result of incomplete intercourse. The

court ruled in her favour. In Brian's last years at Express Newspapers, he suffered by association with Mohamed Al Fayed, the chairman of Harrods. He and Al Fayed used to chew the fat, and at one of

these meetings Al Fayed said he had details of corruption was never a "go-between". He believed he was protecting the Prime Minister. among senior government members and felt John Major The next day Brian came to see me. A £200 fob watch had

should know. This was the first hint of the sleaze scandal arrived as a gift of friendship from Al Fayed. Brian passed that was to plague Major. the watch into my care. He was horrified at the way he fter returning to the office, Brian related had been compromised by a man who claimed friendship. the conversation to me and Lord Stevens In 1995 it was decided that

the Daily Express needed a change of Editor. When circula-United Newspapers. Brian then telephoned Downing tion doesn't go well, the fall guy is always the Editor. Two of the Street and was granted an interview that evening with applicants seemed outstand-Major and his press secretary. ing: Richard Addis and Susan Then the duplicity from all sides started. "Leaks" about Douglas. It was at this point that Ampthill, who had go-betweens" intervening on thought it was time for a behalf of Al Fayed were pubchange, decided that, as Brian lished, with speculation that was within a year of retirement, Hitchen was the man. Brian we should revitalise both the

Daily and Sunday Express by appointing two young Editors. I insisted on telling Brian.

His reaction was predictable and gentlemanly, though he was not enthusiastic about the choice of his successor. In fact Susan Douglas did not last long as Sunday Express Editor, and Richard Addis, Dally Express Editor for only a year more, ended up editing both

NEXT WEEK Heads roll as "Killer" Stevens arrives in Fleet Street

Editor clashed with old guard

Robin Morgan was 'too young' for top job at Sunday Express

and his replacement by Robin Morgan, John Junor did not hang around for long. Morgan proved to be an editor too far for Junor, who was upset by his unflattering references to the Junor decades.

Junor, having extracted as much money as he could from the Express Group, promptly did a deal with his, and The Express's, arch enemy, Lord

Rothermere. Junor eagerly took the good Lord's shilling fin his case, clos er to £100.000

for one JJ column a week).
The Mail on Sunday was jusrifiably cock-ahoop at the Junor coup but its joy would have been even greater had it known more about the man who was now guiding the Sunday Ex-

press. Robin Morgan was a mistake. His youthful exuberance and lack of experience were frightening. I remember him telling me one day that he was going to eliminate "crossheads which he felt were "old-fashioned". If he had been allowed to do this the paper would have been filled with

type.
While Junor seems to have considered himself God's gift to women, Morgan could not resist mock-approaches to the opposite sex. "Want to go out with a big boy!" was his tongue-in-cheek bravado, the grin on his face magnified by his Hank Marvin spectacles.

The biggest mystery of his

great slabs of unreadable

of Robin Esser from the Sunday Express editorship occurred in the earth by hours of August 20, 1989 the night the Marchioness. pleasure boat on a disco fun trip up the Thames, was run down by the bulk carrier Bon-

1.50am on a Sunday, and the boat went down within sight of the Express offices, between Blackfriars and South-wark bridges. It was long after the first edition deadlines for all the Sunday newspa-

> ally on the spot placed to deliv er the first and best coverage of one of the biggest news sto-ries of the year, Robin Morean, after a

long day, had left the office but could not be contacted. He had apparently left a number,

phoned it, there was no reply. The man who had been Editor of the Sunday Express for only a few short weeks could not be found.

So it was left to his deputy, Charles Garside, who happened to live near by, to take over - and a splendid job he made of it.

and designed new pages, organised journalists, ordered extra copies to be printed and produced a paper which suffered not at all by its staff not being able to contact its

As for Garside, he was ignored when the time came to replace Morgan. He went on to run The European.

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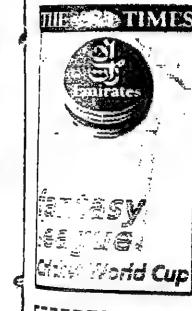


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SCORING SYSTEM Every player in your team is awarded or deducted points for runs scored, wickets taken, catches and BATTING Every 10 runs in an innings Every 50 runs in an innings . . 3 bonus pts (eg A score of 50 will be awarded 5 points plus 3 bonus points: Every player out for less than 5 runs (excl bowlers) Every player out for 0 runs (excl bowlers) -2 pts

For every wicket taken There are also bonus points awarded or lost according to Economy Rate (runs conceded per over ratio) Bowlers can score bonus points for low economy rates and lose

them for high ones. The economy rate is an indication of how

So, by taking the number of runs scored by the opposition during a bowler's match overs and dividing them by the number of overs bowled, an economy rate is established. A low economy rate will gain you points while a high one will lose you points. A bowler must bowl a minimum of five overs to qualify. Bowler with an economy rate of 3.00 runs or under 5 pts Bowler with an economy rate of 3.01 runs to 4,00 runs 2 pts Bowler with an economy rate of 4.01 runs to 5.00 runs 0 pts Bowler with an economy rate of 5.01 runs to 6.00 runs -1 pt Bowler with an economy rate of 6.01 runs or above -2 pts (e.g. A bowler taking 4 for 30 in 10 overs, an economy rate of 3.00 runs per over, will be awarded 8 points plus 5 bonus points a total of 13 points)

good a bowler is at not letting batsmen score runs against him.

For every catch _____ 1 pt For each stumping ____ 2 pts

HOW TO MAKE TRANSFERS

Managers can make transfers to strengthen their teams. From now until the start of the tournament at 10am on May 14, you can make as many changes to your team as you like by calling the 24-hour transfer tine on 0640 62 51 25 (+44 870 901 4296 ex UK) with your PIN to hand. Follow the instructions on the line. Your transfers must result in a new team in the correct formet. From the start of the tournament until the start of the Super Six stage at 10am on June 4

you can make a further six team changes. After this you cannot make any further changes to your team. Changes made by 10am on any particular day will become active for matches from that day onwards. If changes are made after 10am then they will become active from the following day's matches



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George Salmon len Philip Mike Smith Bruce Patterson

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201 Adam Gilchrist
202 Khaled Mashud
203 Jahangir Alam
204 Alec Stewart
205 Kennedy Obeno
207 Adam Parore
208 Moin Khan
209 Mark Boucher
210 Alec Davies
211 Ramesh Kaluwit
212 Ridley Jacobs
213 Andy Flower WICKETKEEPERS

58 20 3 120 132 25 114 129 30 8 112 23 AUS BAN BAN ENG INDN KEN PAK SAF SCO SRI WIN ZIM ALL-ROUNDERS
301 Steve Waugh
302 Torn Moody
309 Shane Lee
304 Aminut Islam
305 Khaled Mehr
306 Naimur Rah
307 Neeyamur R
308 Adam Hollio
309 Mark Eahar
310 Vince Wells
311 Ian Austin
312 Andrew Fin
313 Robin Singl
314 Maurice Od
315 Triomas Od
316 Torny Sur
317 Jimmy Kam HOGNOERS
Steve Waugh
Tom Moody
Shane Lee
Aminul Islam
Khaled Mahimud
Naimur Rahman
Neeyamur Rashid
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426 Gavin Larsen
427 Dion Nash
428 Shmon Douli
429 Daniel Vettori
430 Geoff Allott
431 Matthew Hart
432 Carl Bulfin
433 Wager Youris
434 Mushtaq Ahmed
435 Seqlain Mushtaq
436 Abdul Razzaq
437 Shoaib Akhtar
438 Alian Donald
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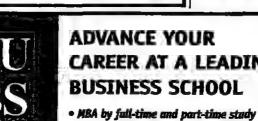
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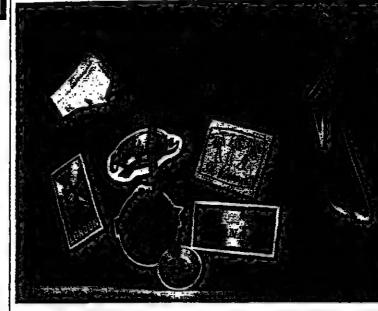
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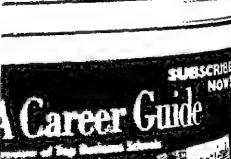
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Pupils in the United States who fail basic tests are catching up with compulsory holiday classes. Sue Ellicott reports

More than 200,000 children from New York aged between eight and 13 will go to summer school this year in an attempt to raise their grades

lican-led Illinois state legisla-ture handed Chicago's schools to its Mayor, a Democrat. He immediately set to work - bringing in a tough-minded former businessman to overhaul the entire system.

Within weeks, he announced that children unable to meet new reading standards in their second year of primary school would have to attend obligatory summer classes. If they improved, they

was that the stories were true. We were like Lake Wobewould move up; if gon - we couldn't fail anynot, they would stay down. That year, 1997, half the one," says Jamie Horwitz, a spokesman for the American primary school stu-dents had to go description of the children in back in summer. his satirical Minnesotan town Mr Horwitz

says: "It was shock therapy for the school system." But it worked. After six weeks of intense study, many of the children made the grade. And Chicago has Last year more than half the unteers and, in New York, they are seeking a new firmula firmula

through its summer schools

year. Students showed compa-

Chicago three years ago. For years, Chicago schools improved their reading scores enough to move up. According to figures from were ridiculed as the country's worst. Reading and maths Chicago's Board of Education. which oversees the city's scores were among the lowest. Yet, as in many American 430,000 schoolchildren, cities, any action to make 12-year-olds improved their improvements was impeded reading ability by seven months on average, while feuding between state and local politicians. Eventually, some teenagers improved by a rable improvements in maths, too. Publicly, teachers have long vilified the practice of moving low achievers up. Privately, however, some are relieved to bid farewell to a child who drained time and energy.

Taking his cue from Chicago, Ruben Zacarias, the head of the Los Angeles school system, has said that he needs to spend \$140 million (about £88 million) this year on intervention programmes for

at least 150,000 struggling primary pupils, about 40 per cent of the young classes. His mer school, Saturday lessons and after-school tutoring. About a billion

dollars are needed this year to do the pate in the summer

they are seeking a pay rise above \$32 an hour to do so. Then there is the problem of volatile parents. People are sensitive about falling standards in inner-city schools. In a culture built on visible achievement and self-esteem, repeating a year is a social stigma and can meet resistance.

Last year, in Compton, a

poor district of Los Angeles.

parents led a protest and sued

And American children start their formal schooling later than the British. Few cities offer anything that resembles a government-funded nursery or kindergarten system and usually children do not start school until they are six - so they are on average behind

British children in literacy and numeracy. America's large immigrant population means that some

children are floundering because they lack adequate English skills.

But if summer schools are welcome, there is the tricky issue of who pays for it. Mr Crew doesn't yet have the mony to send more than 200,000 children to summer school this year, although parents have been warned that their children might be in remedial classes if they have failed this month's reading tests. The city of New York's schools are funded by the state of New York and Mr Crew's budget does not cover the summer.

"He'll pull it out of some-where," says Ana Marengo, of the United Federation of Teachers. "It's just unclear from where.

The curriculum: if it ain't broke, why fix it?

inisters cannot disclose their plans for a revised national curriculum until the middle of next month because of the block on potentially contentious government announcements during campaigning for the local elections. But markers are already being put down for the next re-

Campaigners for radical change in state schools have written off the current exercise. David Blunkett opted, probably rightly, for a steady as we go approach this time as the best hope of hitting the Government's educa-tion targets. The last thing schools want, af-ter a decade and more of upheaval, is another set of subject guidelines.

By 2004, however, there may be more appe-tite for reform. Indeed, the moment could come sooner than that because the current review will not follow the pattern of the last two and guarantee five years of stability.

For the past few months, the Royal Society for the Encour-agement of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA), has been organising a series of de-bates on whether the current style of curriculum will need to alter for the 21st century. The programme will culminate next month with a question session in London and a subsequent lecture by Valerie Bay-liss, the project director and

former senior civil servant, A report published ahead of the final debate sets out the basic argument for reform: that our education structures -- not just the national curriculum -belong to the 19th century and will not work in a knowledge-

based economy in which young people will require technological skills and great flexibility. Technology, it is said, will have to be integrated into the curriculum, rather than added on, but the driving force will be the controversial concept of a "competence driven" curriculum.

The language will set off alarm bells immediately among traditionalists, who will see the spectre of soft options replacing the discipline of "real subjects", utilitarianism driv-ing out civilising knowledge. Ten years of fruitless discussion of "key skills" makes such a reaction understandable, but premature. The RSA team is not advocating the abolition of traditional subjects, but a moulding of lessons to ensure that the skills sought by

employers have their grounding in schools. At the pub of the debate is whether schools are already doing the job, or could be encouraged to do it more effectively without ripping up the curriculum. If it ain't broke, why fix it? Next month's revision should leave schools with a little more scope to teach more imaginatively, bringing out the analytical and teamworking skills that the RSA sees as

essential for success in the modern world. The CBI and other employers' organisations have identified the same needs without drawing such far-reaching conclusions. Andersen Consulting, the sponsors of the project, summed up the problem in a report last year. "There is a gap between the skills and attitudes that employers seek, and those many young people possess... another be-tween what those employers look for, and young people's perceptions of what is important...and another between the skills and attributes young people have, and their ability to demonstrate that they have them."

Propositions for radical change in schooling generally centre on the largely fallacious argument that the pace of technological change and the rapid advance of knowledge make much of what is taught out of date almost before it is learnt. That may apply, in a limited way, to science, but Shakespeare's

words remain the same and so does the basis of mathematics. If the principles of learning are transmitted successfully, young people should be able to adapt and add to their knowledge in adult life.

This, however, is where the RSA report takes issue with the current system. Literacy, nu-meracy and subject knowledge would still be at the heart of education, but there would be a switch of emphasis to ensure that pupils acquired key competences at the same time.

These would include how to learn, including the ability to make full use of information technology; managing informa-tion and time-management; communication and teamworking, and a package of broader issues defined

as citizenship.

Distilled in such a way, the proposal looks banal, and good schools will claim to be addressing the issues already in their own way. But the debate goes back to first principles, questioning the aims and objectives of school in the 21st century. Education should be more than a part of the proposition of the state of the second of the be more than a mere preparation for work,

but it must serve that function effectively. The RSA package is by no means the last word in modern schooling — its faith in the liberating force of technology, for example, has yet to be fully justified and there are unanswered questions about how the mastery of competences would be assessed. But the computer is bound to change the business of learning as the new century progresses and the skills that young people need will change

It may be too soon to persuade teachers or politicians that our schooling is becoming outdated. But the issues raised in Redefining the Curriculum are certain to become much more familiar in the decade ahead.

THE TIMES

WRANEVENNGWIHITE nlike European countries, the US but it job properly. The money, of course, is a big deal. Teachhas no national worked standardised tests. ers want to partici-Each school district sets its

the school district for introduc-

ing summer schools and refusing to move up children

deemed unready. Eventually,

most were persuaded that the

summer programme was a

benefit, especially when they saw how motivated their chil-

dren were to learn. It also

helps that the summer school

classes are smaller than those

thuring the rest of the year, so

the parents are confident that their children will get special

British concerns about fall-

ing educational standards

could make the summer

school idea worth considering.

rapidly as studies show Ameri-

ca falling further behind other

industrialised countries in

reading and maths and sci-

own rules so that even reading

tests vary within each state.

attention.

ence skills.

VOICE OF BART SIMPSON **PLUS: FREE SIMPSONS POSTERS**



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oday The Times offers one lucky reader the chance to meet Nancy Cartwright, left, the actress behind the voice of Bart Simpson* at an exclusive private preview of The Art of

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Bart at the Animation Art Gallery, Great Castle Street, London, W1 on Friday, May 14. The winner will also be given a signed, limited edition of Simpsons artwork, illustrated.

Every reader can get a free Simpsons poster titled Deep Thoughts of Homer Simpson worth £3.99 simply by attaching three differently numbered tokens to the voucher which will be published in The Times tomorrow and presenting it at any Virgin Megastore in the UK and Eire.

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*See Bart Simpson in meg@every Saturday.

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CHANGING TIMES

Learning to chill out

It was a

shock for

the school

system

Weekend courses can be relaxing, says David Thomas

f you are a New York child likely to flunk your

end-of-year reading and

mathematics tests in a

After years of letting chil-

dren move up a class even when they have falled to mas-

ter the basics of the one they

are leaving, American educators are getting tough. There

have been too many jokes

about 16-year-olds with high-school diplomas unable to fill

out a work application form

for McDonald's. The problem

Federation of Teachers, refer-

Not any more. New York grabbed headlines recently

after Rudy Crew, its schools'

chancellor, announced plans

to have more than 200,000 chil-

dren between the ages of eight

and 13 in summer school this

year. Because the city has the

nighest number of school stu-

dents in America everyone noticed, although Mr Crew

was following a trend set by

mainly out of spite, the Repub-

as all above average.

summer school.

ancy the chance to try your hand at something challenging and stimulating? Most residential courses are in boarding schools and university towns. But the Old Rectory set in West Sussex countryside in Fittleworth is an adult education college with a hint of Jane Austen or Anthony Trollope.

The building, part of which dates from the 16th century, has been run as a college since 1962 and for the past five years has been owned by Tony and Sue Dawkins, المقتلة سراء both former teachers. It is one of only two privately owned colleges in the Adult Resdential Colleges Association, which monitors its 30 or so member colleges.

If it sounds too cosy for a learning environment, visit the art studio or a tutorial room and observe the concentration of the students. I watched a mosaics class where everyone was engrossed. The atnosphere was cheery but purposeful, and the end products - three mosaics in different styles, materials and designs were not only impressive but something tangible to take home.

Students described the course work as 'tiring but relaxing". As Mr Dawkins explained: "People come with different expectations and motivation. We aim to please those who see it as a holiday with a bit of art thrown in, as well as those who want a structured course."

There are morning afternoon and vening lectures, and over the course of a



It feels like a holiday weekend at the Old Rectory despite 12 hours' tuition

weekend there are between 11 and 12 hours of tuition by specialists.

The mosaic course is one of 35 crafts and restoration subjects on offer, a favourite being the making of a traditional teddy bear. Painting and drawing is the most popular, and all abilities are catered for - the Painting for the Petrified weekend enabled one student to say that for the first time in her life she had actually enjoyed putting brush to canvas.

Other subjects are yoga, tai-chi, out-door and natural history, literature, history, writing and theatre, music and singing, a wine workshop, the Alexander technique, bridge for improvers and understanding the Universe. The average class size is ten, and stu-

dents range from 18 to 94, although most

are in their forties. There is accommodation for 50. Each week and each weekend there are four courses. At the end of the day students socialise in the bar. Which brings us back to the ambience: two acres of garden, with a croquet lawn and heated swimming pool, a shop, coffee room, and clean, comfortable bedrooms.

This summer a single room with en suite facilities, hand basin, bath or shower costs £248 for a Monday to Friday course, and £149 for Friday to Sunday. This price is fully inclusive of tuition and full board; and surcharges for course materials are minimal.

• The Old Rectory, Fittleworth, Pulboroug West Sussex RH20 1HU (tel/fax: 01798-865 306); Adult Residential Colleges Association, Box 31, Washbrook, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3HF.

Alan Wibberley Building Ltd v Insley

Before Lord Browne-Wilkinson. Lord Lloyd of Berwick, Lord Hoffmann, Lord Hope of Craighead and Lord Clyde [Speeches April 29]

The 'hedge and dirch presumption' was not displaced when land was conveyed by reference to an Ordnance Survey map which showed the boundary to be in the middle of the hedge, when the conveyancing history showed that the land had never been in common ownership. there was nothing to show that the ditch had been dug before the boundary was drawn and there was no doubt that the hedge and disch presumption had for many years delineated the boundary.

The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by the defendant. John Graham Insley, from the decision of the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Simon Brown and Lord Justice Ward, Lord Justice Judge dissenting) (The Times November 24, 1997; [1998] | WLR 881) dismissing the defendant's appeal from a decision of Mr Recorder Alan Pardoe, OC, at Stoke on Trent County which he declared that the true line of the boundary between the debour, the plaintiff, Alan Wibberley Building Ltd, was the middle of a hedge which the defendant had reMr Anthony Elleray, QC and Mr Ian Foster for Mr Insley: Mr Charles Machin for Wibberley.

LORD HOFFMANN said that the first resort in the event of a boundary dispute was to look at the deeds. Under the old system of unregistered conveyancing, that meant the chain of conveyances and other instruments, going back beyond the period of limitation. which demonstrated that the owner's title was in practical terms secure against adverse claims.

The same was true in the case of registered conveyancing where what was known as the general boundaries' rule applied. That was now contained in rule 278 of the Land Registration Rules (SR & O 1925 No 1093 (L 28)).

The Land Registry used maps based upon the Ordnance Survey accurate. For example, if one field was divided from another by a natural feature such as a hedge, the line on the Ordnance Survey map would indicate the middle line of

But the effect of the general boundaries rule was that the own-er of a field shown on the filed plan by reference to the Ordnance Survey man did not necessarily own it up to the middle line of the hedge. The precise boundary had, if the topographical and other evidence.

There were certain presump-

the best known was the one which was drawn from the existence along the boundary of a hedge and a ditch. In such a case, it was presumed that the boundary lay along the edge of the ditch on the far side

The basis of that presumption was explained in Vowles v Miller ((1810) 3 Taunt 137, 138): "No man, making a ditch, can cut into his neighbour's soil, but usually he cuts it to the very extremity of his own land: he is of course bound to throw the soil which he digs out, upon his own land; and often, if he likes it. he plants a hedge on top of

It should be noticed that the rule involved two successive presumo-

ditch was dug after the boundary was drawn.

Second, it was then presumed that the ditch was dug and the hedge grown in the manner de-

If the first presumption was displaced by evidence which showed fore the boundary was drawn, for example, as an internal drainage ditch which was later used as a boundary when part of the land was sold, then there was obviously no room for the reasoning to oper-

ate.
The defendant, relying upon the

which might be drawn from the - hedge and ditch presumption, topographical features. Perhaps grubbed up the hedge along his secgrubbed up the hedge along his section of the boundary and crected a post and wire fence along the far

The plaintiff objected. It claimed that the true boundary ran along the middle of the hedge.

The burden was upon the plaintiff to show that it had a better title than the defendant. He was in possession and therefore needed to show no title at all.

Possession was in itself a good title against anyone who could not show a prior and therefore better right to possession: Asher v Whitlock ((1865) LR 1 QB I).

The question was therefore whether the plaintiff had acquired a title to the strip. The land was unregistered and the question dependupon an examination of its The title of the plaintiffs farm

could be traced back to the seventeenth century. It had always been in senarate ownership from the defendant's farm and there was nothnot always been in the same place. There was also nothing to sug-

gest that the ditch was there before the ancient boundary between the two farms had been drawn. So hedge and ditch gave rise to an inference, for the reasons stated in Vowles v Miller that the land of the plaintiffs predecessor in title was

It was therefore clear that if the question was confined to whether the plaintiff had established a title to the strip on the basis of its own deeds, the claim should have

But the judge and the majority in the Court of Appeal held that the plaintiff could succeed by praying in aid inferences drawn from the sheefs stresheefs

Therefore, although the defendant was under no obligation to prove any title at all examination of his deeds was required.

If one had asked before the sale to the defendant's predecessor in title where the boundary between the two farms lay, the deeds would have told the same story as his neighbour's. In both cases exact boundary would have depended upon an inference from the hedge and ditch.

It was said, however, that upon its true construction, the 1975 conveyance to the defendants predeces-Ordnance Survey map, gave the land only up to the midline of the hedge.

It was very doubtful whether that was correct. The language was confusing and was in itself fairly inconclusive as to whether the parties intended the boundary to be in the precise place which the Ordnance Survey map represent-ed, namely, in the middle of the

very unlikely. If one examined the conclusion. That seemed highly improbable ritle of the vendor, as the parties must have done, it would have

to his Lordship. It would mean that the vendor and the defendant's shown that by virtue of the hedge predecessor in title intended not and disch presumption he owned merely to convey whatever land the vendor owned but that they the land up to the far side of he had undertaken some inquiry to es-If, therefore, the 1975 conveytablish the precise boundary beance drew the boundary along the middle line of the hedge, the ventween the two farms.

Furthermore, they had ascerdor would have been retaining a tained that it lay in a place which oseless strip between that line and the far side of the duch. That was no previous conveyance or topographical evidence would have sugmost unlikely to have been the in-

But there was no evidence that The more likely inference, which they were privy to some piece of in-formation which would have disthe words for the purposes of identification only supported, was that placed the hedge and ditch prethe parties were using the Ordsumption as applied to the earlier nance Survey plan in the same way as it was used in registered conveyances, or what that information might have been. conversancing, that was, to indicate

Therefore, if one had to start That would have left the hedge with the artificial assumption that the 1975 conveyance included the and disch presumption undisland only up to the middle of the turbed, with the result that the 1975 hedge, the most likely explanation conveyance included all the land was that the draftsman simply up to the boundary of the plaintiffs farm on the far side of the ditch. made a mistake. The inartistic manner in which the parcels had The same land was in due course heen drafted supported such a con-In the Court of Appeal, however,

His Lordship repeated that it was for the plaintiff to establish its title to the strip.

The majority in the Court of Ap-peal had relied upon the case of Fisher v Winch (*1939) 1 KB 666); a case in which the ditch was there

The majority came to the latter So there was no room for the reasoning in Vowles v Miller.

Whoever dug the ditch could no have dug it along the boundary he cause there was no boundary as that point.

There was nothing in Fisher to displace the conclusion that have ing chosen to describe the land by reference to an Ordnance Survey nian, it had been intended that the boundary be where that plan indicated, namely, along the middle of the hedge.

In the instant case, there was no doubt that there had been in many years a hedge and dirch on what had for centuries been the boundary between the two farms

There was no evidence to displace the presumption that the boundary between the farms was drawn before the ditch was dug So for all this time the presumption

has determined the boundary.

And whereas in Fisher v Winch the question turned upon the little of the person who took under the conveyance by reference to the Or. dinance Survey plan, here in on the other side of the boundary Therefore the reasoning in Fishery

Lord Hope delivered a concurring judgment and Lord Browne-Wilkinson, Lord Lloyd and Lord Clyde agreed,

Solicitors: Grindeys, Stoke on Trent; Challinors & Dickson, Stoke

Power to arrest sister ship owned by slot charterer

MSC Meditarranean Shipping Co SA v Polish Ocean Lines (The Tychy) Before Lord Justice Otton, Lord

Justice Waller and Lord Justice Clarke [Judgment March 31]

A slot charterer of spaces on a containership for the carriage of goods was capable of coming within the definition of a charterer in section 21(4)(b) of the Supreme Court Act 1981 despite the fact that a slot charter gave control of only part of the vessel to the charterer. Since more could properly be described as the

er within section 21(4). The Admiralry Court therefore had jurisdiction under section 20(1) and 20(2)(h) of the 1981 Act in relation to the arrest of a sister ship owned by the slot charterer arising out of an alleged breach of the slot

charterer of the ship, a slot charter-

charter agreement. The Court of Appeal so held, dismissing the appeal of the defendant, Polish Ocean Lines, against the refusal by Mr Peter Gross, OC sitting as a deputy judge of the Admiralty Court of the Queen's Beach Division, of the application of Polish Ocean to discharge the arrest of the MV Tychy, arrested by the plaintiff, MSC Mediterranean

Shipping Co SA, on March 17. On May 17, 1993 the parties

made an agreement by which Mediterranean Shipping chartered con-tainer slots to Polish Ocean on vessels operating on Mediterranean Shipping's North Atlantic Service. Polish Ocean ran into financial difficulties. Despite further agree-ments designed to reduce the number of slots allocated to Polish

Ocean and adjust the payments. Polish Ocean fell into arrears. On March 17, 1999 Mediterranean Shipping issued a writ claiming sums due and damages for breach of contract and arrested the Tychy. a vessel owned by Polish Ocean. On March 22 the judge refused the

alia, to discharge the arrest. Section 20 of the Supreme Court Act 1981 provides: "(1) The Admiraty jurisdiction of the High Court shall be ... (a) jurisdiction to hear and determine any of the proceedings mentioned in subsection (2)... "(2) ... (h) any claim arising out

of any agreement relating to the

carriage of goods in a ship or to the use or hire of a ship...' Section 21 of the 1981 Act provides: "(4) in the case of any such claim as is mentioned in section 20(2)(e) to (r), where - (a) the claim arises in connection with a ship; and (b) the person who would be liable on the claim in an action in personam ("the relevant person") was, when the cause of action arose, the owner or charterer of, or ship, an action in rem may _ be brought in the High Court against (ii) any other ship of which, at the time when the action is brought, the relevant person is the beneficial owner as respects all the

shares in it." Mr Timothy Young, QC and Mr Christopher Smith for Polish Ocean; Mr Dominick Kendrick, QC. for Mediterranean Shipping.

LORD JUSTICE CLARKE said that the question was whether Mediterranean Shipping could bring an action in rem against the Tychy. The five requirements in section 20(2) and 21(4) of the 1981 Act were conceded or assumed for the purposes of the application except one. The Issue was whether Mediterranean Shipping could es-tablish that Polish Ocean was the

charterer of the ship. Mr Young conceded that "charterer" in section 21(4) was not confined to a demise charterer. The Span Terza (1982) 1 Lloyd's Rep which was binding on the court, was authority for the proposition that "charterer" included a

The purpose of the statutory provision was to ensure that before a ship was arrested in respect of a maritime claim the relevant person had some connection with the ship. In principle there was no reason why a time or voyage charterer should not be included.

There was no reason not to give section 21(4) its natural meaning. The protection for the defendant was in the last part of the section. A sister ship arrested had to be wholly beneficially owned by the person who would be liable on a claim in

Mr Young submitted that the judge asked the wrong question. Section 21(4) did not refer to "an owner or charterer in possession or control" but "the owner or charterer". The plaintiff had to show that the person liable in personam was the charterer of the whole

His Lordship saw the force of that submission as a matter of lan-

The judge had rejected the distinction between time and voyage charterers, concluding that "char-terer" within section 21(4) was capable of including both. His Lordship entirely agreed.

The next question was whether "charterer" included a part charterer. A charterer of part of a ship was well known, for example, in the His Lordship agreed with the

judge that once it was accepted that 'charterer" included voyage charterer, there was no good reason to exclude such charterers.

Unless there was something in the five requirements in sections 20(2) and 21(4) to exclude the charterer, it made no sense to hold that if a charterer chartered a whole tanker a plaintiff could arrest a sister ship, whereas the ships of a charterer of half a tanker were immune from arrest. There was nothing in the Act or in principle to justi-

What of a slot charterer? Such charters were now common.

There was no distinction in principle between a slot charterer and a voyage charterer of part of a ship. space on a ship. A slot charter was 1996 No 14991. simply an example of a voyage The Queen's Bench Divisional charter of part of a ship. It followed that the conclusion

that a voyage charterer was a charterer within section 21(4) led to the conclusion that a slot charterer was such a chanterer. Mr Kendrick submitted that the category of charterparty was not

closed. It was subject to evolution as the market evolved. As dry cargo ships became containerised, space was commonly hired by reference to twenty foor unit spaces by slot charterers. That was no different in principle to the

His Lordship accepted that submission. A slot charter satisfied the characteristics of a charterparty de-scribed by Mr Justice Hobbouse in The Torenia (1983) 2 Lloyd's Rep

charter of part of a ship by a bulk

Could a slot charterer be described as the charterer? It was accepted that there could be more could properly be described as the charterer, for example, under a string of charters.

Each of the charterers under each charter was the charterer of the ship, hist as a ship craild have two registered owners. Both would be the owner within section 21(4). There was no difficulty in describing a charterer of part of the ship

as the charterer.
On the facts Polish Ocean was the charterer of each relevant ship. Mr Young submitted that Polish Ocean was no longer the charterer when the cause of action accrued because by the time payment was

due under the agreement the con-tainers had been delivered. His Lordship rejected that submission. The charterparty was on foot so long as obligations under it still had to be performed. That in-cluded the obligation to pay. On any other view section 21(4) would be unworkable.

Lord Justice Otton and Lord Justice Waller agreed. Solicitors: More Fisher Brown, Aldgate: Richards Butler, Fen-church Street.

labelling regulations Hackney London Borough Council v Cedar Trading Ltd Before Lord Justice Kennnedy and Mr Justice Mitchell

> [Judgment April 21] The fact that a food carried a well known trademark or brand name did not render it exempt from the Food Labelling Regulations (SI

the general boundaries.

conveyed to the defendant.

it was conceded that the 1975 con-

veyance only conveyed the land up

to the middle of the hedge. There-

fore the choices facing the court

were either that the vendor had

useless strip or that it somehow he-

Court so held when allowing an appeal by way of case stated by Hackney London Borough Council against the dismissal by Mrs Jac-queline Comyns, Tharnes metropolitan stipendiary magistrate, on September 7, 1998 of 18 informations laid against Cedar Trading Lid alleging that it had contra-vened regulation 44.

The company had sold three cans of Coca Cola and three cans of Sprite which were not marked or labelled in accordance with and contravened regulations 8, 12 and 8(I) in Part II of the 1996 Regulations which required, respectively, that the name used for a food be sufficiently precise to inform a purchaser of its true nature and to ena-ble it to be distinguished from products with which it could be confused, that the list of ingredients be headed or preceded by an appropriare heading consisting of or includ-ing the word "ingredients", and that the particulars required by the 1996 Regulations be easy to understand and clearly legible.

Regulation 3 of the 1996 Regulations, as amended by the Food La-belling (Amendment) Regulations

Trade name insufficient for

'(I) ... these regulations shall not apply in respect of ... (b) any food lawfully produced in another member state brought into Great Britain from a member state in which it was lawfully sold ... which is labelled with a name that is sufficiently precise to inform a purchasto be distinguished from food with which it could be confused, the label being in a language easily un-

derstood by the purchaser." Mr Simon Butler for the appel-lant; Cedar Trading did not appear and was not represented.

LORD JUSTICE KENNEDY said that the cans of drink had been lawfully produced and sold in Holland and then brought into the United Kingdom.

The cans were labelled with the "Coca Cola" and "Sprite" trade mark or brand name, pictorial representations of a bottle of cola drink or lemon and lime fruits, descriptive names of the food written in Dutch and a list of ingredients ulso written and headed in Dutch Although the cans had the familiar colours and brand names, most of the writing was in Dutch.

1996 Regulations, as amended was to be derived from regulation

might consist of a name or description or of a name and description and it might contain more than one word.

council has r

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Regulation 10 provided that a trade mark, brand name or fancy name could not be substituted for the name of a food. It seemed clear that "Coca Cola" and "Sprite" were trade marks or brand names which could not be regarded for the purposes of regulation 3(1) of the 1996 Regulations as a name. Consequently, the magistran

was bound to find that the respondent did not meet the requirem of the regulation 3(1) exemption because the cans were not labelled with a name sufficiently precise to inform a purchaser of their true naguished from food with which they could be confused, the label being in a language easily understood by the purchaser.

The question as to whether, for the purposes of regulation 3(i), a well known trade mark or brand name could confer exemption from any of the requirements of the 1996 rulations would be answered in the negative.

The matter would not be remitted to the magistrate for re-hearing and no order would be made as the respondent company was thought to be in liquidation.

Mr Justice Mitchell agreed. Solicitor: Mr Christopher Hind.

Facts imply influence

Killick v Pountney and Another

Before Mr James Munby, QC

[Judgment March 31] The inquisitorial function of the judge in a contentious probate action was to seek the truth as to the testator's true last testament notwithstanding the manoeuvres of the parties, including the silence of

a delendant. Mr James Munby, QC, sitting as a deputy Chancery Division judge, so held when pronouncing against the validity of the last will and testament dated October 11, 1989 of Norman Arthur Frederick Killick on the application of the the nephew of the deceased, by rea-son of the undue influence of the first defendant, John Michael Pountney, the executor and a beneficiary of the estate of the deceased under the will of October 11, 1989. The second defendant, Mrs Nellie Pountney, was the mother of the first defendant and a beneficiary under the disputed will.

Mr Martin Russell for Mr Killick; the defendants did not appear and were not represented.

Mr Russell relied on Freeman v

Cat ((1878) 8 ChD 148), approved in Porrett v White ((1885) 31 ChD 52

but subsequently doubted in Hol-

lis v Burton ([1892] 3 Ch 226, 239).

HIS LORDSHIP said that the court received no evidence from the first defendant, against whom the allegation of undue influence

tion did not justify drawing adverse inferences of the kind advocated by Mr Russell. A number of reasons why the first defendant might have chosen

Inactivity of the type correctly at-tributed to the defendants in this ac-

to adopt that particular course came readily to mind, not all old which were necessarily detrimental to him. However, on the facts of the

present case, the court could be sat-isfied that the first defendant had exercised highly persuasive, in-deed coercive influence in order to induce the testator to make the disputed will, and that such influence was used in order to achieve, and did achieve that end.

Solicitor: Allen Ticehurst, East

European Law Report

Luxembourg UK in breach over water quality

Communities v United King-dom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland Case C-340/96

Before P. Jann, President of Chamber and Judges J. C. Moitinho de Almeida, C. Gulmann, D. A. O. Edward and L. Sevon

Advocate General J. Mischo (Opinion September 15, 1998) Judgment April 22

The United Kingdom had failed in its domestic legislation to fulfil its obligations under a Community directive on water quality. The Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice of the European Communities so declared on an application by the Commission of the Europe

an Communities under article 169

of the EC Treaty.

Council Directive 80/778/EEC of July 15, 1980 relating to the quali-ty of water intended for human consumption (OJ 1980 1.229, p11) inter alia, required member states to take the steps necessary to ensure that such water met specified requirements, except in special circumstances such as exceptional me-

The Water Industry Act 1991, inter alia, set out arrangements for ensuring that water companies complied with water-purity stand-

teorological conditions

By section 18, where a water company supplied water which did not comply with the purity requirements, the secretary of state had in principle to make an enforcement However, under section 19, the

secretary of state was not required

Commission of the European to make an enforcement order if, inter alia, he was satisfied that the company had given an undertak-ing to take all such steps as appeared to him appropriate for securing or facilitating compliance with the relevant rules.

After receiving numerous complaints, the Commission brought the present action, contending, inter alia, that, by reason of the system of mere undertakings provided for by the 1991 Act, compliance by the water companies with the standards of the directive was not being enforced.

lo its judgment the Fifth Chamber of the Court of Justice held: The Commission stated that the undertakings in question were apt to contain clauses making it possible to amend both the target dates and the technical specifications of the works required to secure compliance with the standards of the di-

Taking as an example the under-takings given by Thames Water, the company supplying water for London, the Commission pointed out that they were accepted without any reference to the quality standards to be met.

The United Kingdom stated that in certain cases compliance with the requirements of the directive necessitated significant construction work, public consultation and environmental impact assessments, and that for the purpose of attaining the desired result, undertakings constituted a more expeditions and efficacious procedure than enforcement orders.

In order to secure the full imple-

mentation of directives in law and not only in fact, member states had to establish a specific legal framework in the area in question.

In the case of the mechanism of undertakings at issue, that had not been achieved. While the 1991 Act set out the pro-clure to be followed for issuing

an enforcement order and required the secretary of state to specify the measures necessary to ensure that the water in question was brought into compliance with the directive's requirements within as short a time as possible, that was not so with the system of undertakings under section 19, which authorised the secretary of state to accept an undertaking on the sole condition that it contained such measures as appeared to him appropriate for en-suring compliance with the stand-

The Act thus did not specify the matters to be covered by the undertakings, in particular the parameters to be observed in respect of derogations, the programme of work to be carried out and the time within which it had to be completed, and, where appropriate, the information to be given to the popula-

tion groups concerned.

The United Kingdom's argument that the Commission had approved the system of undertakings. particularly in a letter of May 1989, was not to the point, as the Court had consistently held that, except where such powers were expressly conferred on it, the Commission could not give guarantees concern-ing the compatibility of specific practices with Community law, and in no circumstances did it have the power to authorise practices which were contrary to Commi-

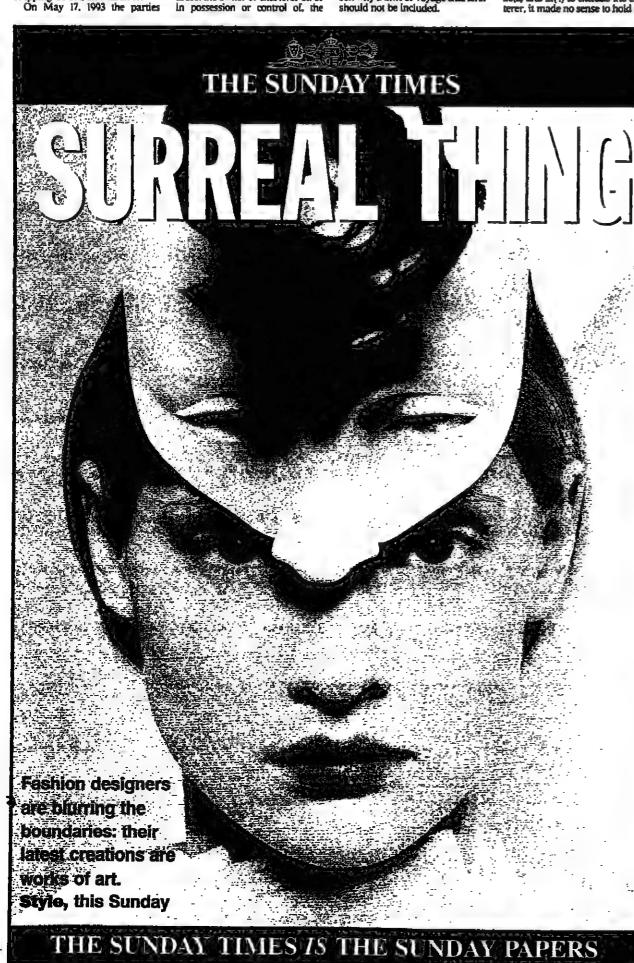
nity law.

A further ground of complaint raised by the Commission was that, although the United Kingdom had transposed the directive into its domestic law by means of provisions which were sufficiently clear and precise to enable individpersons entitled to exercise the rights concerned were prevented. force, from having recourse to the courts if they were supplied with water not complying with the quali-

ty standards of the directive.

However, while it was indeed
the case that, where a directive was intended to create rights for individuals, member states had to lay down the provisions necessary to ensure that the persons entitled to exercise those rights enjoyed just cial protection, that ground was not admissible as it was not set out in the letter of formal notice of 122 soned opinion that the Commission issued before starting the artide 169 action, so that the Commis sion could not rely on it without enlarging the scope of the action and so infringing the rights of defence of the United Kingdom Govern-

On those grounds the court de-clared that by accepting undertakings from water companies for the purpose of ensuring that water complied with the requirements of Directive 80/7/8, without the cond such undertakings being specified in the 1991 Act, the United King-dom had failed to fulfit its obligations under the EC Treaty and under that directive.



Court of Appeal

Judge's power to grant residence order

Gloucestershire Council v P (a Minor) and

Before Lord Justice Butler-Sloss, Lord Justice Thorpe and Lord Jus-Dudgment April 27]

The flexibility given to a judge by section 10(1)(b) of the Children Act section 10(1)(b) of the Children Act 1989 to make a residence order on his own initiative was not limited by the restrictions imposed by sec-tions 9 and 10(3).

Accordingly, the court could in grinciple grant a residence order to keer paretus who were prohibited from making the application themselves Such an order would, howerer, be most exceptional and

erer, be thost exceptional and made on cogent grounds based on the child.

The Court of Appeal so held by majority (Lord Justice Thorpe dissenting) in allowing an appeal on a prelimnary issue brought by the linguism friend, formerly guardian at litera, of the child. P. against the relief of Judge Nelican at Release of Rele the refusal of Judge Neligan at Bris-tol County Court on January 22, 1999 to investigate the merits of the proposal put forward by Ps litiga-tion frand to discharge a care or-der and grant a residence order to the foster carers where P had lived for the past two and a half years.

Section 8 of the 1989 Act pro-vides: "(1) In this Act ... 'a residence order means an order settling the anne in sufficient for arrangements to be made as to the person with whom a child is to

Section 9 provides: "(3) A person who is, or was at any time within the last six months, a local authorily foster parent of a child may not apply for leave to apply for a sec-tion 8 order with respect to the child unless - (a) he has the consent of the authority: (b) he is a relative of the child or (c) the child has lived with him for at least three years

estion arises with respect to the welfare of any child, the court may make a section 8 order with respect to the child if ... (b) the court considers that the order should be made even though no such application has been made...

"(3) This section is subject to the restrictions imposed by section 9." Miss Clare Wills-Goldingham for the litigation friend: Mr Alex J. Ralton for the paternal grandpar-ents of the child.

LORD JUSTICE THORPE, dissenting, said that the appeal raised a point of construction of the inter-

Judge Neligan had the responsi-bility of deciding the future of P who was four years old and who had entered the care of Gloucestershire County Council under a care order made in the Family Proceedings Court on September 10, 1997. In May 1998 the council applied for a freeing order. That applica-tion was supported by Ps mother but opposed by the paternal family which had united in support of the

application of the paternal grandparents for a residence order At a pre-trial review, Ps litiga-tion friend opposed the applica-tions and proposed that the court should of its own motion discharge P from care and grant a residence order to the foster carers where P had been living for the previous

rwo and a half years.

At the hearing, Mr Rahon raised the objection that the effect of sections 9 and 10 was to exclude the foster parents as persons to whom the court could of its own

motion grant a residence order. He submitted that they lacked the necessary standing under section 9(3) since they did not fall Into any of the categories there mentioned and relied on the decision of Mr Justice Wall in In re M D and TD (Minors) (No 2) ([1994] Family

he was bound by that authority and concluded that it would therefore be vain to investigate the mer-its of the proposal of the litigation

The question was whether the powers in section 10 were subject to the restrictions in section 9, as section 10(3) seemed to state, or were restrictions relating to foster parents purely procedural, only re-stricting their rights of application and not touching the court's power to make any residence order that served the paramount welfare principle despite the absence of an ap-plication?

His Lordship reluctantly concluded that section 10(3) meant what it said and precluded the court from making a residence order of its own motion in favour of a foster parent caught by the restric-tion in section 9(3).

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT WALKER said that while he was extremely reluctant to differ from Lord Justice Thorpe and Mr Jus-tice Wall on a point of family law. he had reached a different conclu-

1 Section 10(1) and (2) drew a clear distinction between section 8 orders made on an application by a person, and orders by the court, in the traditional phrase, of its own 2 The court's powers under section

10(1) and (2), and would-be appli-cants' rights under section 10(4) to (8) were all 'subject to the restrictions imposed by section 9. In order to see whether there were any relevant restrictions it was necesary to look at section 9.

3 The restriction in section 9(3) was, in striking contrast to all the other restrictions except that in the first part of subsection (2), procedural in character: it disqualified a particular class of person from applying for leave under section 10(1)(a)(ii) or (2)(b).

4 There was no reason to read into

Council has no discretion in implementing red route

striction which Parliament had not spelled out since to du so would (a) ignore the distinction noted at I above: (b) ignore the different lan-guage used in other parts of section 9, including section 9(2) and (c) curtail the court's powers in an area in which any doubt should be re-solved in favour of flexibility.

LORD JUSTICE BUTLERof the Act to place a double fence around the right of foster parents to apply was clearly stated. But the further requirement that the court was also bound by that restriction was not clearly stated.

The curtailment of the court's powers to make orders in cases of children in care were expressly pro-vided for in several sections of the Act, see, for example section 9(1).

Her Ladyship found it difficult to understand why Parliament having provided that additional power to the court under section 10(1)(b), should then circumscribe its extent without using clear language such as was found in section

Her Ladyship recognised the clear policy of the Act to restrict fos-ter parents to a special category of applicants. She equally took account of the restrictions in the Act upon the powers of the court which were otherwise clearly expressed and mandatory.

The power given to the court by section 10(1)(b) incorporated into the 1989 Act the jurisdiction of the High Court in wardship to make the most appropriate order in the interests of the child without being trammelled by procedural hurdles.

In this instance, however, there was no clear restriction upon the court in its application of that additional flexibility in the making of orders, a flexibility which was also part of the philosophy of the Act. Her Ladyship did not consider

Mr Stephen Hockman, QC

Miss Claire Wright for the appli-cants; Mr Timothy Straker, QC,

Mr Peter Harrison for the council;

Mr Mark Lowe, QC, Mr James Findlay for the Traffic Director of

of restriction upon the powers of the court which were to be found in other parts of the Act, section 10 should be read narrowly so as to curtail the powers of the court in the exercise of its discretion where the welfare of the child was para-HIGHIT!

reached the conclusion with some besitation that the general restric-tion under section 10(3) did not apply to prohibit the court from ma ng an order under section 10(1)(b). Her Ladyship wished, however, to add some words of caution. It was obvious that the court's power

to make an order not asked for by either party ought to be used sparingly and with caution and only after giving all parnes proper time to Further, in this sensitive area of child care, a foster parent application which was not supported by

the local authority, even after three

years, ought to be scrutinised by

the court with great care. It followed therefore that to make an order granting residence to foster parents who were prohibit-ed from making the application themselves had to be a most excep-tional order made on cogent grounds firmly based on the clear

needs of the child. A residence order which was made by the court at a time near to the expiry of the three years re-quirement might not be quite so difficult to justify as one made much earlier, particularly since delay was stated by the Act to be generally detrimental to the welfare of the

To adjourn a case in order to allow foster parents to seek leave to apply after three years was up might be more disadvantageous to the child than to grasp the nettle and make a section 10(1)(b) order of the court's own motion a few months earlier.

Solicitors: Willans, Cheltenham: Winterbothams, Stroud.

patible with it. The duty was to lim-

plement the local plan. The words

as soon as is reasonably practica-

ble" in section 57(1)(a) related to the

timing of the implementation.

They gave a discretion to the council as to the timing of the im-

plementation but they did not give

a discretion to the council to object

in principle to the implementation

to seek to persuade the secretary of

state at the political level to change

his mind about the designation of

the Earls Court one way system as

a red route, so long as it remained

designated as a red route it re-

mained the council's duty to imple-

ment that designation in its local

plan and continue to act in manner

Phillips, Kensington: Treasury So-

Solicitors: Clyde & Co; Mr Alun

While the council could continue

the red route.

compatible with it.

Single application over separate orders

Dixon v Allgood Before Lord Woolf, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Robert Walker and Lord Justice May (Judgment April 14)

A single application could be made for leave to appeal against two or more interlocutory orders made in the same case but on different occa-

The Court of Appeal so held in al-The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an application for leave to
appeal by, and the appeal of James
Dixon, the plaintiff against the decision of Mr Ian Joseph, deputy registrar of Civil Appeals, on February 14, 1997 that he had to make
two separate applications for leave
to appeal against interfocutory
to styling as a judge of the docks, sitting as a judge of the Chancery Division on October 18. 1991 and December 6, 1996, in an action against the defendant.

Lancelot Aligood. Mr Dixon in person; Mr Allgood did not appear and was not rep-

LORD JUSTICE MAY said that the practical consequence of the deputy registrar's decision that Mr Dixon had to make two separate applications for leave to appeal as that he had had to pay two fe of £100 each instead of only one fee. The deputy registrar's decision

what was now paragraph 59/3/26

of The Supreme Court Practice 1999 (vol 1, pl028) under the head-ing "Appeals against more than one order - multiple notices of ap-

Chief Constable of Avon and Somerset Constabulary (The Times May 20, 1993) where the Court of Appeal had held that separate noces of appeal were not required for appeals against orders made in the same proceedings at the same trial or hearing.

The note continued: "... if orders are made in one action, but not at the same trial or hearing, separate notices of appeal will still be re-

Mr Dixon submitted that that note was editorial only and was not supported by Hawes. He subrate notices of appeal or separate applications for leave to appeal from interlocutory orders made in the same case would be unnecessary and wasteful even if the orders were made on separate occa-

In his Lordship's view, Order 59, rule 3 of the Rules of the Supreme Court did not address, nor did it come close to addressing, the question whether a single notice of appeal could include appeals from same case but on different occaMr Dixon's case was concerned with not one or more notices of ap-peal but with applications for leave to appeal. The part of Order 59
which dealt with applications was

rule 14. There was no editorial note to rule 14 equivalent to paragraph 59/3/26. There was nothing in rule 14 which helped to answer the ques-tion which the present case raised.

Hawes did not address the question before the court. There was no relevant rule which dictated the answer and certainly no rule which compelled the conclusion stated in the last sentence of the editorial comment already referred to. His Lordship could see no rea

son of substance or practice or practicality why two applications for leave to appeal from separate decisions given on different days in the same case had to be made on separate pieces of paper. There was every reason of economy why they should be made in a single applica-

present case where both applications had related to interlocutory costs orders and where the second application had related to an order which had itself related to the order which the first application

The Master of the Rolls and

Plea bargaining is always inappropriate

Regina v Ryan Before Mr Justice Klevan and Mr

[Judgment March 29]

It was invariably inappropriate for counsel to approach a judge seek-ing an indication as to the length of sentence he was minded to impose. and it was all the more undestrable where the basis of the approach was that the defendant might be prepared to plead guilty in the light of the indication.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so stated when granting a renewed application for leave, alowing the appeal of Deborah Marie Ryan, and reducing to 18 months imprisonment a sentence of four years imposed on August 3, 1998 by Judge Appleton at Preston Crown Court following a plea of guilty, on re-arralgement, to pos-session of heroin with intent to sup-

On July 6, Judge Bennett, before whom the case had been listed for trial, had indicated in chambers to counsel present that on a plea of guilty he would probably impose a sentence of not more than IR months imprisonment. On being changed her plea to one of guilty and the case was adjourned for re-

Judge Bennett was unavailable when it was listed for sentencing, so it went before Judge Appleton, who was not told what Judge Bennen had indicated earlier.

Mr Nicholas Courtney, who did not appear below, for the appellant, Mr A. S. J. Alty for the

MR JUSTICE GRAY, giving the judgment of the court, said that there was a clear line of authority, starting with R v Turner ([1970] 2 QB 32l), which appeared to establish the following propositions: I Approaches to a judge seeking an indication of the length of sentence which might be imposed in the event of a plea of guilty were to be deprecated.

Where such an indication was given and conveyed to a defendant. it would normally be binding not only on the judge who gave the indication but also on any other judge before whom a defendant might appear to be sentenced. 3 Where a defendant had changed his or her plea in the light of such an indication from the judge but had subsequently been subjected indicated, the Court of Appeal would often, but not invariably, feel constrained to reduce the sen tence to that indicated, even if the the offence merited in all the cir-

The present case was a vivid illustration of the harmful conse-quences which might flow from olea bargaining of the kind that had occurred.

The departure from what should be the established practice was compounded by the omission on the part of counsel to inform Judge Appleton before he passed sentence of the indication which had eartier been given by Judge

Although in their Lordships judgment the sentence imposed was justifiable for such an offence. In accordance with the principles enunciated, the application would be granted and the appeal allowed.

Solicitors: Stanley H. Cross & Co. Charley: Crown Prosecution

Waddell and Others v Kention 9 of the 1984 Act was unlawful in that it failed to consider the prin-Mr Justice Harrison so held in Traffic Order 1998. The orders inthe Queen's Bench Division when volved the implementation of a red dismissing an application under paragraphs 35 and 36 of Schedule route along the A322, the Earls ciple whether the Earls Court one way system should be a red route.

sington and Chelsea LBC and Another

Before Mr Justice Harrison Judgment March 311

Where the Secretary of State for the Environment, Transport and the Regions had designated a priority route as a red route, the local council had a duty under section 57(1) of the Road Traffic Act 1991. and not a discretion, to implement that designation, in accordance with its local section 54 plan.

9 to the Road Traffic Regulations Act 1984 to quash two orders made by Kensington and Chelsea Borough Council, on August 14, 1998, namely, the Kensington and Chelsea (Prescribed Routes) (No 5) Priority (Red) Route Experimental Traffic Order 1998 and the Kensing-

ton and Chelsea (Prescribed

Routes) (No 6) Priority (Red)

Routes (Side Roads) Experimental

No entitlement to benefit

Court one way system.

The local council was opposed to the implementation of red routes but expressed its opposition politically while continuing to make progress in carrying out the necessary works for the orders.

The applicants, anti red route campalgners, contended, inter alia, that the intention to implement the red route initially by way

LORD JUSTICE HARRISON said that the power to designate red routes was governed by the 1991 Act. That contained a dered sequence of events. It started with the designation of

a network of red routes in London by the secretary of state. That was followed by the preparation of a network plan for the design and operation of the red routes by the Traffic Director of London having regard to the secretary of states's traffic management guidance. That led to a duty on London au-

thorities to prepare a local plan relating to the operation of the red routes in their area which had to be approved by the director.

Once the local plan had been an proved, the London local authority tion 57(1) of the 1991 Act to implement the plan as soon as was reaue to act in manner which was com-

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quested to apply to the 1 Solinitor (RV). Queen Chambers, 28 Broadway, SWIR 915 Salling which the

ninister the eggsts.

held on March 17, refusing the application of Claudia Restrepo Ve-

Regina v Adjudication Officer. Ex parte Velasquez

The transitional protection for immigrants in receipt of child benefit inserted by amendment into regulation 14B(g) of the Child Benefit (General) Regulations (SI 1976 No 965) applied to those persons who immediately before October 7, 1996 were actually being paid child benelit, not those who were entitled but whose claims had not been fi-

nally processed. The Court of Appeal (Lord Jus-

LEGAL NOTICES

ry and Lord Justice Schiemanni so

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lasquez for judicial review of the adjudication officer's rejection of her

application for child benefit. LORD JUSTICE BUTLER-SLOSS said that the issue was whether the applicant was entitled to the transitional protection in regulation 14B(g) of the 1976 Regulations made pursuant to section 146A of the Social Security Contributtons and Renefits Act 1992, as inserted by section 10 of the Asylum and Immigration Act 1996, on the basis that she was being paid bene-

fit immediately before October 7,

She had not been paid but later was awarded benefit in respect of a period before that date. The appliant and her family arrived in United Kingdom in March 19996 daiming asylum, a claim not yet 5-

it was submitted for the applicant that "is being paid " in regulation 14(B)(g) meant "is entitled to be The natural meaning of the

words was anyone who received

payment. She was not entitled to re-

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Investment Account	£50,000+	4.95%	4.95%	4.80%	4.80%
New rates: from 14 May	£25,000+	4.45%	4.45%	4.30%	4.30%
	£10,000+	4.20%	4.20%	4.05%	4.05%
	£5,000+	4.00%	4.00%	3.85%	3.85%
	£2,500+	3.90%	3.90%	3.75%	3.75%
	£500+	3.80%	3.80%	3.65%	3.65%
	under £500	3.65%	3.65%	3.50%	3.50%
Treasurer's Account	£100,000+	4.95%	4.95%	4.80%	4.80%
New rates: from 14 May	£25,000+	4.45%	4.45%	4.30%	4.30%
	£10,000+	4.20%	4.20%	4.05%	4.05%
Ordinary Account	£500+	1.20%	1.20%	1.10%	1.10%
New rate: from 1 May	under £500	1.00%	1.00%	No Change	No Change
Deposit Bonds (no longer	on sale)	4.45%	4.45%	4.30%	4.30%

General Extension Rate [†] New rate: from 1 May	Current Rate pa	Current AER	New Rate pa	New AER
	2.49%	2.49%	2.34%	2.34%
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NITHE HEGH COURT OF DUNING A copy of the petition and of a report on the terms of the Scheme by an independent actuary is available for inspection at Guardian Assurance Public Limited Company, 31/F. Hong Kong Telecom Tower, Taikoo Piace, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay and CMG Assa Life Assurance Limited, 39/F. Hopewell Centre, 183 Queen's Road East. Wanchai driving normal office hours from the date of this notice until 21st May 1900. 4. Any purson intending to uppear at the leasting of the Petition must the with the lingistrat of the Septeme Court and serve on Mid-inad's Amountys no later than 9th August 1999, notice of his fraction to appear spectfying:

(a) the hame and addresses of the parson giving the notice and any religibleous or tables; manker which may be required for communicating with him or any other person specified in the notice who is authorized to speak or act on his behalf; The petition is directed to be heard in the Count of First Instance on 1st June. 1999 and any person, including any employee of CMG and Guardian Assurance who alleges that he or the would be adversely affected by the carrying out of the Scheme may appear at the time of hearing in person or by conseel. Any person who intends so to appear, and any policyholder of CMG or Guardian Assurance who dissenss from the Scheme but does not intend so to appear, should give not less than 3 clear days prior counce in writing of State prior notice on the strength of CMG at their respective addresses set out above. Alternatively, such prior notice can be given to the solicitors of Guardian Assurance. Staughter and May, 27th Floor, Two Enchange Square, Central, Hong Kong, or the solicitors of CMG. Baker & McKenzie, 14th Floor, Hutchingon House, 10 Harcour Road, Hong Kong. May, 1999.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DRVISION COMPANIES COURT No. 2699 of 1999 IN THE MATTER OF MEED INTERNATIONAL PLC. Dased this 30th day of April, 1999. i. Midland's Attorneys are Misick i Simshook of P.D. Box 127. Town Centre Mail, Providenciales, Tarks and Calcos Islands Dated this 27th day of April, Guardian Assurance Public Limited Company 3UF, Hong Kong Telecom Tower, Taikoo Pince, 979 King's Road, Quarry Bay, Hong Kong. PUBLIC NOTICES the hashing of an Order for the com-firmation of the suld reduction of explipi abould appear at the time of hearing in passon or by Commel-for that purpose. A copy of the suld betting A copy of the suld betting will be furnished to any such person re-quiring the same by the under-mentioned Solicitors on payment of the resultant for the CHY-1161C
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RACING: JOHNSON INSPIRED AS ANZUM ADDS TO FESTIVAL MOOD

Katarino proves a class apart for Henderson

FROM ALAN LEE, RACING CORRESPONDENT, AT PUNCHESTOWN

unique to Punchestown, the victories of Risk Of Thunder and Katarino within a breathless half-hour yesterday could not be bettered. One horse negotiated the banks, stone walls and haffling turns of the fourmile cross-country course; the other won a championship two-mile hurdle run at spectacular speed.

Katarino's triumph in the IAWS Hurdle was a confirmation of Cheltenham form and an overwhelming relief to his trainer, Nick Henderson, who had viewed the sunshine rapidly drying the ground with illconcealed distaste. "He hated it and we won't risk him again on ground as fast as this," he

This, however, is one tigerish animal. Unbeaten since joining Henderson, the 7-4 favourite beat off a strong and confident. Irish challenge, jumping boldly and staying on well to win by a length and a half. "It was a fantastic performance," Henderson performance," said. "He's tough and brave and his jumping stands up to

Henderson is considering sending Katarino back to his native country for the French Champion Hurdle in June. But he'll only go it the ground two that matter, because I

AS A vignette of the concoction adore Punchestown and this was a serious prize." The logical course for Kat-

arino next season might be a tilt at Istabrag in the Champion Hurdle but, on good ground. Henderson is tempted to increase his trip and go for the Stayers' Hurdle instead. In that event, he should find himself taking on another horse to complete the Cheltenham-Punchestown double yesterday.

If Katarino's victory was predictable, that of Anzum in the Ballymore Properties Champion Stayers' Hurdle was not. David Nicholson's gelding had snatched the Cheltenham equivalent in the last stride, when an unconsidered 40-1 shot, and he was relatively friendless again at 7-1 here as Le Coudray was backed as if defeat was incon-

ceivable. Anzum had come from an apparently impossible position at Cheltenham but this time he set off to make all, and plainly enjoyed it. Brilliantly ridden by Richard Johnson, he repelled all challenges to win emphatically from Khayrawani, Le Coudray lading rapidly to be pulled up.

distressed, on the home turn. Nicholson, who was gaining compensation for the firstfence fall of Escartefigue in the Heineken Gold Cup on

Wednesday, was justly jubilant. "That was nearly the riding performance of the season to jump off and make all in a championship race on an essentially slow horse," he said. "He is slow but he tries and he stays. It's nice to have a

body can say that was a fluke." Philip Hobbs later turned out his second winner of the meeting, and Britain's sixth, with Native Fling, but for those who delight in the traditions of Punchestown, the highlight of the day was the La Touche Cup. This unfathomable race was named after a character who managed this course for 30 years up to 1921 and clearly had a sense of humour. It is a celebration of Irishness and Risk Of Thun-

true champion, because no-

der is its emblem. Remarkably, this was the fifth consecutive year he has won the event, the third since entering the ownership of Sean Connery. The film star was absent vesterday, doubtless dealing with the constitutional matters of his native Scotland, but he would, anyway, have been upstaged by the real star in these parts,

Enda Bolger This was Bolger's last ride before retirement and there could have been no finer farewell for the most successful point-to-point rider ever, with

412 victories to his name. The horse was foot-perfect, the jockey almost motionless. Afterwards, he hurled his whip to the cheering crowd and was hoisted onto the shoulders of fellow jockeys.

This was stirringly representative of a part of Punchestown that will never perish. no matter the scale and speed of its advance. Little else remains as it was, even two years ago. The three-card tricksters survive, and the ladies who sell sweets from rusty prams, but trade stands, coffee bars and that rarest of Irish commodities, signposts, have sprung up everywhere on the once rustic Last year's Festival, run in

appalling weather, was described by Charlie Murless, the chief executive, as "a horror story that might have left us dead in the water". This year, with record crowds each day and a daily betting turnover of £2 million, has been a triumph.

Hundreds of British people now take a week's holiday to come here and, judging by the look of them last night, another week to recover. Cheltenham officials, stoutly resisting the temptation of a fourth day, will be present today to see if it works. With Istabraq among those present, it can

:∄: C4 ≈ 5



Anzum, far side, jumps the last ahead of Khayrawani in the Champion Stayers' Hurdle at Punchestown yesterday

PUNCHESTOWN FIELDS AND RESULTS

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SOLUTIAL SUDCESS (1 March 17-1

SOLUTIAL BETTING: 13-2 Viting Bury, 8-1 Total Success, Clitton Fog, Bessson, 15-1 Res State Bengaberry, Most-land King, 12-1 others.

3.50 SHELL CHAMPION HURDLE (Grade I: £66,000: 2m) (7 runners)

SETTENG: 5-15 Edition. 7-1 Decompage. 8-1 Limestone Lad. Sir Tables. 10-1 Space Trucker. 16-1 Activ Footage, Feathered Legillor

Going: good to soft

3.15 IAWS CHAMPION FOUR-YEAR-OLD HURDLE (2m) 1, Katarino (M A Fitzgerald, 7-4 lev), 2, Golden Rule (11-1), 3, Alarad (6-1), 9 ran, 1 k, 3 k, N Henderson et Lambourn, Tote, \$2.70 \$1.50, £3.20, £2.20 OF. £25.20 CSF. £19.78, Tro. £49.30

3.50 TRIPLEPRINT NOVICE CHASE (2m) 1, Sydney Twothousand (N Wildemson, 11-2), 2, Society Bnef (9-1), 3,

243.59.
4.25 BALLYMORE PROPERTIES CHAMPION STAYERS HURDLE (3m)
1, Araum (R. Johnson, 7-1); 2 Khayrawani (16-1), 3, Mister Morusa (12-1), Le Coudray 1-2 lav 8, ran, 2-3, 3/4. D. Nicholson at Temple Guting, Toter 28.30; 82.90, 83.00. DF: 620.30, 655-680.18.

HUSSELBURGH

A TOTAL PROPERTY.

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Page 14

WHEN THE METING OF THE FEM

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STREET, STATE WINDRING TEAM

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19400 (*25g)

NEWMARKET

ROB WRIGHT

2.05 Flag Fen 3.40 Zippergate 4.15 Keld

2.35 Mukhalif 4.50 Houdini's Honey 3.10 RABAH (nap) 5.20 Surveillance

Timekeeper's top rating: 2.35 ADNAAN

Our Newmarket correspondent: 2.35 Swan Knight. 3.40 SURPRISE ENCOUNTER (nap) . 4.50 Houdini's Honey.

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

READING THE RACECARD

Racacard number. Draw in brackets Six-ligure form (F - fell, P - pulled up U - unosated fider. B-brought down. S - Sipped up. R - retused D - dispusable (Hurse same. Days since last outlied, J or brinkers, V - vozor T - tongui shap. H - frond, E - Eyesheld, C - course winner D - dispusable (F - fixed properties). The respective of the service of the Racacard numbes. Oraw in brackets Six-figure form (F - fell, P - pulled up U - unseated rider, B -

2.05 TURN OF THE LANDS HANDICAP

(£5,816: 1m 2f) (20 runners)

-1 Fantasy Night, 7-1 Zaha. 6-1 Isabeta Genzaga, 10-1 River Beat, Plinchinchs. Danetel, 12-1 old, Sweet Sorrow, Mutadarra, 14-1 others. 1998: CAFILYS QUEST 4-8-8 T Own (33-1) J Nevike 24 ran

1998: CARLY'S OUEST 48-8 T Dunn (33-1) J Nevite 24 ran

PINCHINCHA has allen to an abractive mark and should processed by the formers of a bit of value to an open contest. He finished no closer than fourth in five starts fast season but to now 10th lower in the handicap than at the start of last year and showed that he was ready to strike when a fine 27 fifth of 22 to Grinkov at Newbury (1m 21, good to firm) 13 days appl. Miracle Island (Bh) and River Bear (10th) are both held on that form and Zaha may prove a bigger threat. Jeff Pearce's charge failed to get the best of now, when beaten 21 and 1v4 into third by Top Jenn and Fantasy Wight at Locester (1m 21, good to soft) at the start of the month and can now reverse placings with the numer on 2th better terms. Danald appreciated the step up to 91 when manage out a 18 winner of a Wolverhampton malden (standard) last month and does not appear harshy treated on a mark of 69 teatelta Gonzaga is another who could prove well breated if branstating her sand form to burt, white Gatecrasher may have needed his reappearance effort after being golded, Nigel Twiston-Davies saddles a rare Plat numer in Jaguar who showed ability in four starts for Gay Kelleway at two years.

2.35 GREEN RIDGE STABLES NEWMARKET STAKES (Listed race; 3-Y-O: £12,842: 1m 2f) (9 nunners)

23211- ADMAAN 181 (0.5) (H.J-Neistourn) J.Duniop 8-11

3-8 ANSCHLUSS 15 (S. Memma) C. British 8-8

116-51 BATHWINCK 18 (F. 6) (W. Cilliono) B. Smart 8-8

21- BAT ALL 222 (S.) (S. Schaff) S. M. Smart 8-8

11- MARCHALF 215 (S.) (Gootolphn) S. Im Scrool 8-8

43-825 SEMSEAR TOKK 13 (S.) (A Meeditard, C. Smith 8-8

2 SILVER ROGEN 175 (W.) M. & Mrs. E. Robbis) L. Currall 8-8

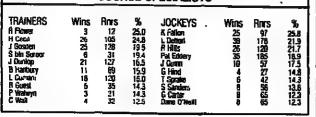
1 SWAN (AWAST 18 (C.G.) (Schith Mehramed) J. Goodel 8-8

23-105 YAKAREEM 15 (H. Al-Mutana) K. Mehdi 8-8

BETTING: 7-4 Multitatit, 4-1 Admaen, 5-1 Beat All, 7-1 Sman Krught, 8-1 Bestwick, 10-1 Silver Robin, 16-1 Yakawarm 20-2 others 1998: DR FONG 8-11 K Fatton (11-4 tay) H Cecil 6 ran

Admain, pulled out of the Threster Classic Trial at Sandown on Saturday with the ground riding soft, had overcome similarly testing conditions when winning the listed Zetland Colorus by 1st from Forest Stradow on the Routey Mile course (1m 2t) in October Connections obviously feel he will do better for a sound surface but a 3th penalty makes his last burger har and he will do well to deny MINHALIF. Goldelphin's first British number of the season will be closely watched and a tally run knorn that former band Loder trainee will be deep will be of the president Soundard Internation of the season will be closely watched and a tally run knorn that form the first trainee will be well for the Duta operation's Cuineas number. Multitudir's two nurs last year saw him win a Leicaster maiden (7t, good to soft) before bashing Zaepe's by a comfortable 14-at a Ascot (7t, good, Beat Ail can count himself unitactly to have run mile Auction House on his debut last year. He made no mistate when subsequently beating Thrust 21 in a Chepstow maiden (7t, good to soft) and looks a smart performer in the making. Swan Knight, a 5000,000 yearing, you a division of the Wood Distro States here (1m) on his racecourse due to the state of the Wood Distro States here (1m) on his racecourse due to the state of the Wood Distro States here (1m) on his racecourse due to the Wood Distro States here (1m) on his racecourse when the maident (7t, good to soft) on his only start last year.

COURSE SPECIALISTS





FULL RESULTS SERVICE: 168

Quinn tops

RICHARD QUINN completed a 796-1 four-timer from just four rides on Seazun (7-2), Mansa Musa (13-2), Caernarfon Bay (8-1) and Mutabassir (13-8) at Brighton yesterday. The first two were trained by Mick Channon, whose assistant, Ray White, said: "He could win on a rusty bike the way he is riding." Quinn has now ridden 34 winners this

3.10 SAGITTA JOCKEY CLUB STAKES (Group II: £34,200: 1m 4f) (11 runners)

BETTING: 4-1 Burgia, 5-1 Saver Patriarch, 6-1 Rabati, 7-1 Peak Path, Silver Ricepoody, 15-2 Persian Ponch, 8-1 Postdonza, 7-1-lan, 16-1 Kadaita, 25-1 Marcus Materius, 33-7 Chrst.

1996: ROMANOV 4-8-9 J Reid (5-1) P Chapple-Hyam 8 ran SAVER PATHLARCH has to concede weight all round and would arguably be belier suited by a longer trip or softer ground, but his class can part him through. The 1997 Derby numer-up, who went on to win the St Legar, used this race as a stepping stone lowards the the Coronation Cup (which he won at the expense of Swain with Postdones back in sixth) hat year the failed by only a neck to concede 5th to formance. He can go one better this time, especially as Rabah, his front-running stablemate, will ensure a proper gallop Perstan Punch (4th) and Peak Path (6th) were not disagraced behind Sadtan, another Dentlep Inmate, in the John Porter States of Newbry (1m 4f, good to farm) this month. They are both dangers attrough they will definitely be seen to better advantage over lather, a remark that applies to Ta-Linn and Kadaka, Shver Ritapsody would be a threat if reproducting the form she showed when running away with the Princess Royal States at Accident (1m 4f, soft) in October but she has shown a preference for easy going. Marcius Mazinnas, is upped in class along with Chist, while Borgie, 144 second to Barbola at Sant-Cloud (1m 2f, soft) on her return, has not been easy to leah shock her promising three-year-old campaign.

3.40 H & K COMMISSIONS (BOOKMAKERS) HANDICAP ISHOWCASE RACE AND TOTE TRIFECTA RACEJ

(3-Y-U: 27,616: 71) (15 IMBNEIS)

401 (6) 215- GUDLAGE 215 (CD.P) (H. Salem) B. Harbury 9-7. W. Plyan. 75

402 (11) 1052-5 TOUGH GUV 17 (CD.F.S) (Sodo Ld R. Milsom) M. Janks 9-3. P. Robinson (Stat)

403 (7) 5024-0 RED DELRIUM 77 (V.P.) (1 Notif) R. Harburg 9-1. T. Duttern 102

404 (8) 513- SETRAND 226 (6) (N. Ascapeth) J. Dunkson 9-1. R. Hills 8

405 (1) 3145-6 POLES APART 22 (7) (Flor Fullyhouse Partnership) M. Tomplam 9-0. S. Drowne 80

405 (1) 3145-6 POLES APART 22 (7) (Flor Fullyhouse Partnership) M. Tomplam 9-0. S. Drowne 80

405 (12) 132- ELM DUST 199 (D.F.) (Hermoute Soud) J. Donlop 9-0. R. Hills 80

407 (13) 013-0 28*PERSATE 27 (5) (W. Graden) B. Holston 8-12. P. At Eddery 80

408 (4) 4155-0 SLUMBERNEI 14 (6) (Mrs. C. Paluthyn) B. Mesten 8-12. P. At Eddery 80

409 (9) 00-1 SURPPRISE ENCOUNTIER 25 (D.S.) (A. All) F. Dunkon 8-12. K. Fraiton 84

410 (10) 021-0 BOURD FOR PIEASURE 28 (D.S.) (A. Chan) G. L. Moore 8-9. J. Fortune 84

411 (3) 2340-2 BULK SUK 17 (S. Fusch) C. Walt 9-7. G. B. Hills 83

412 (5) 4700-4 TOP ORDER 15 (S. H. H. Prince Faid Salman) K. Burtu 8-3. J. Quinen 90

414 (15) 000-4 SKY OF HOPE 15 (Licason Stud) R. Harmon 8-1. G. Carter 78

415 (2) 00-4 ARREAN MOON 15 (S. Suhal) C. Brittern 7-11. Arbities Stat Ton (Here. Trumb (3-Y-U: £7,676: /1) (15 numners)

BETTHIC: 3-1 Surprise Encounter, 5-1 Black Silk, 8-1 Esterand, Gudlage, 12-1 Achilles Star, Top Order, Tough Guy, Zippengase, 14-1 Elm Dusi, Poles Apart, 16-1 Sty Of Hope, Slumbering, 20-1 uniters. 1998: JRA 9-3 R Halls (11-6 lav) R Amstrong 14 ran

Black Silk shaped like it surefine thore winner when finishing truling strongly having missed the break and been poorty drawn. He should again account for Tough Guy, who was nearly fit forther back in fifth that day, as well as Red Definirm, who was a well-beatin heritin. However, whether he has the speed to cope with SURPRISE ENCOUNTER (nap) is another matter. Ed Dunlop's charge displayed fine acceleration when beating Border Prince (lass run well again in defeat since at Epsom) on the reappearance at Kempton (71), and does not look overburdend on his handicap bow. Esterazd, wither of a maiden at Nottingham last July, is the type to pay her way this term and looks the pick of the two John Durdop namers. Guddage, unsufted by the soft ground when disappointing in the Royal Lodge at Assort in September, looks up against it under his big welgit on his return although Zippergate, unsuffed by the course when talking to fire on his correback at Kempton, warrants respect. Sumbering and Top Order look the pick of the rest.

4.15 DAHLIA STAKES (Listed race; £12,320: 1m 110yd) (8 runners)

| S308-4 PUTUNA 8 (S) (R Hitches) | Bateling 4-8-12 | K Fellon | Eptil 14000- B08BYDAZZLE 208 (D.G.S) (Mrs 8 Cohen) Dr J Scargill 4-8-9 | J Outern 90 | Off- KELD 210 (D.F.G) (T Racing Lat) J Faschare 4-8-9 | R Cochrane 105 | HABRI SABELIA 19 (D.S.) (E July) | L Comeni 4-8-9 | L Deptil 60 | 31600- MALINE 202 (S) (C Milks) R Quest 4-8-9 | D Holland 116 | 16-340 PRIMARY COLUMES 20 (S) (S) (Saracen Racing) J Pearte 4-8-9 | R Prica 89 | 22600- RICH IN LOVE 197 (F) (R Carc) C Cyres 5-8-9 | T Qohn 108 | O WARS 17 (BF) (K Marrar) J Banis 4-8-9 | O Pesiter -BETTING: 11-10 Keld, 7-2 Maria Isabelta, 9-2 Puluna, 10-1 Milling, Rich in Love, 20-1 Wars, 33-1 Bobbydazzle, Primary Colours.

1998: YABENT EL SULTAN 4-8-9 R Coctrans (9-2) B McMahon 8 ran

1998: YARRIT E. S.L.TAN 48-9 R Cochare (9-2) B McMchorn 8 ran

Putura, 544 lourth of 12 to Cited Cashier in a handicap at Epsom (fin 21 8)4, soul), represents solid form and is one of those more favourably treated by the conditions. The doubt is whether she is as effective on this quicker ground — she lacks a bit of pace and could be beaten for speed — but she remains one of the more fibely asswers. Preference is for KELD, who beat Wood Venture 21 in a stakes race here (1m. good) tast autumn, in the process suggesting there is more to come, her stable has made a good start to the season. Maria leabellat as another lightly raced type to appeal her defeat of tumbleweed Hero by a neck in a maiden at Nottingham (1m 54yd, soit) is nothing special, but if her breeding is any guide — she is a half-state in the top-class Herbor Protector and Bosra Sham — plenty of improvement could be forthcoming. Bebbydazzle and Primary Colours are handicappers with quale a bit to find, although Rich in Love, 11! seventh to Lady in Waiting in a listed stakes here (1m 2i, good), is a possible outsider. Milling was 241 last of seven to Silver Hrapsody in a group three race at Ascot (1m 4i, soit), while Wars steps up hugely in class.

4.50 PORTLAND LODGE MAIDEN STAKES

(3-Y-0: £4,760: 71) (15 runners)

BETTING: 11-4 Katestes, 5-1 Alpenglow, Houstins's Honey, 7-1 En Silvorz, 6-1 Gracious Grit, 12-1 Bellevie, Compton Angel, 14-1 others. 1998: 089(TALLZE 8-11 K Faiton (10-1) H Cacil 16 can

Riding arrangements suggest Albengtow, by Ezzoud, is the pick of the Gosden names, but she looks a couple of promising types in Houdind's Honey and KAFHANEE. Houdind's Honey was 21st hith to Georgette here (id, good) and can be expected to come on for that experience, although she may not cope with Kafhanee. 4t find to Mouchkey there (71, good) is soit) when trained by David Loder and now with the formidable Godolphin team. En Silence was an encouraging 51 severalth to Cassandra Go here at Newmertel (71, good), a race in which Wednesdry's Ascot winner Instructe Shished third. Gracious Gift can be given a citange on the 25st second to Emnia Peel at Nottinghem (6f 15yd, soit) — Compton Angel (levels) 35st behind — but the retrainder, although several of them have shown some ability, may struggle to cope with the principals.

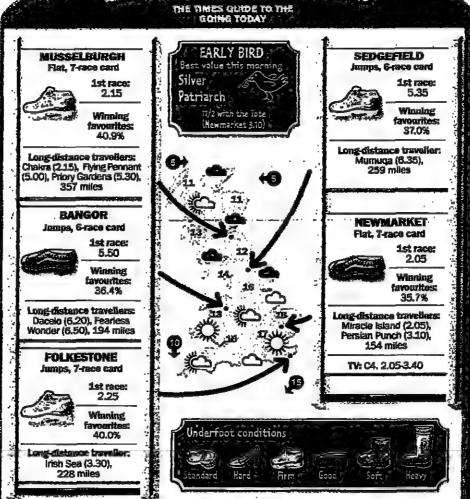
5.20 NEWMARKET CHALLENGE WHIP (3-Y-0: 1m) (2 runners)

2-0 HOUGOLANONT 13 (Mrs P Wahwer) P Wahweri 9-0 Pet Eddery SURVEILLANCE (Shelich Mohammed) J Gossier 9-0 L Dettori 1998: RAJATI 9-0 Martin Dwyer (2-1) Mrs J Cacil 2 ran

SURVENTANCE a half-brother to three winners, including the useful staye Latehaub, gets the vote by default. He will not have to be out of the ordinary to beat Houseomort, 291 imp here (71, good).

Output

Device to be out of the ordinary to beat Houseomort, 291 imp here (71, good).



WEETING POLVYS

ROB WRIGHT 4.05 High Gale

3.00 Stormy. Session

4.40 Idiotic 5.10 Machiavelli 5.40 El Monty

3.30 Inclination

Carl Evans: 4,40 Idiotic.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

2.25 ROMNEY MARSH JUVENILE MAIDEN HURDLE (4-Y-0: £2,265: 2m 1f 110yd) (11 runners)

3.00 EAST WEAR BAY NOVICES CHASE

(£2,768: 3m 2f) (7) 6-4 Merry Shot, 3-1 Starmy Session, 4-1 Hi Hedley, 6-1 Mr Miller, 20-1 Gray Gerden, The Bizzo.

11-4 Baando, 7-2 Ge Postive. 7-1 Goldssar, 8-1 Hickory, 10-1 Far-So-La. Omar's Odyssay, La Petter Flameche. 12-1 others.

3.30 BIDDENDEN SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£1,660: 2m 1(110yd) (15)

7-2 Glowing Path, 5-1 Irish Sea, 6-1 Incircation, Lucy Tuthy, 7-1 Shamute, 10-1 Where's Albust, Lide Mod, 12-1 others,

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAMERS: Mr.; M Junes, 3 winners from 7 namers, 42.9%, N Henderson 10 from 25, 40.0%; P Winterorth, 3 from 8, 37.5%; P R Webber, 3 from 16 16.8%, D Grissell, 12 from 65, 16.5%, T McGovern, 4 from 22, 16.2%. JOCKEYS: 8 Fertion, 7 winners from 51 ridges, 13.7%, J.R. Kavanagh, 7 from 59, 11.9%, Only qualifiers.

See racecards for detailed going

4.05 SEDDLESCOMBE NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£2,898: 2m) (10) 1 -F1 Hold GALE 22 (D.F) P Netholis 7-12-0 J Tizzard 2 5428: ZAHID 25 (D.F) K Berte 8-11-13 B Fernion 2 5428: ZAHID 25 (D.F) K Berte 8-11-13 B Fernion 3 4549 VISCHOR ROD 25 (E) M Wildinson 7-11-11 D Byrno 4 3253 REVERSE THRUST 25 (F) P Hodge 3-11-9 P Holley 5 4370 HAD TIRK HEAVEN 16 (S.S) R Hoad 9-11-7 J R Kavenson 6 -P13 DEEP REFRAN 46 (G.S.) R Holley 9-11-0 J A Troumfor 7 /PSP ATUURIS 36 (B.D.F.B.S) Miss A Newton-Smith 11-10-7 J Goldstein (Z.)

4.40 SOUTH EAST POINT TO POINT SUPPORTERS CLUB HUNTERS CHASE (£1,123: 3m 2f) (7)

2-1 High Gale, 4-1 Raverse Titrust, 6-1 Head For Heaven, 8-1 Zahid, Deep Retrain, 10-1 Vilding Rod, Calvaro, 18-1 others.

1.234 BRALES OF MAR 13 (F.G.S) N Henderson 9-12-7 Mr M Foley (7)
2.7514 DIOTRE 22 (F.G.S) P Charmings 11-12-7 Mr M Foley (7)
2.7514 DIOTRE 22 (F.G.S) P Charmings 11-12-7 Mr M Foley (7)
2.7514 DIOTRE 22 (F.G.S) P Charmings 11-12-7 Mr B Henchoot (7)
4.1231 CARDINAL GAYLE 13P (F.S) Mics L Ahner 9-12-0
Ms D Harding (7)
5.5122 COMMASARRIS 19P (BF.G.S) Mics M Hower 7-12-0
Mr P Blegg (7)
5.FUDU YOUNG MIMROD 12P (T.F.S) Mrs D Grissell 12-12-0
Mr P Hacking
7.1-25 STALBRIDGE GOLD 22 (F.G.S.) J Dukose 10-11-9
Miss S Vicinary (3) Miss S Vicieny (3) 6-4 Idiolic, 3-1 Braes Of Mar, 7-2 Cardinal Gayle, 7-1 Commasants, 10-1 Szábridge Bold, 25-1 Red Rory, 33-1 Young Nimmod.

5.10 PEDLINGE HANDICAP HURDLE (£3,184: 2m 1f 110yd) (13)

7-2 Machiavell, 4-1 Tissae Of Lies, 5-1 Zine Lzne, 6-1 Time For Action, 10-1 Northern Fleet, 12-1 Truency, Global Dancer, Lively Encounter, 14-1 others.

5.40 CANTERBURY STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (£1,483: 2m 1f 110yd) (13)

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Bangor: 5.50 Brumalls, Grasp The Nenie, 6.20 Royrace. Follostone: 3.00 Stormy Session Museelburgh: 5.00 Sheer Warning 5.30 Erupt. Novemarket: 3.40 Red Delinium

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Redcar

Going: good to soft, soft in places 2.20 (SI) 1. Toppo's Gem (J Fanning, 8-1): 2. College Maid (10-1); 3. Jacques Repty (7-1). Commonwood 4-1 fav. 17 ran. Hd, 19 K Ryan. Tote: £11 72, 62.50, £3 80, £5.50. DF, £78.10 CSF £76.40. 2.50 (Im 1) 1, Officia Chuckle (S Fr-namora, 18-1); 2, Swampy (8-1), 3, Statin-er (50-1), Curintel Downs (5th) 4-1 lev. 15 (50-1), Curintel Downs (5th) 4-1 lev. 15 (5th) 4-3.20 (7) 1, Pension Feyne (J Carroll 5-1), 2, Gullsborough (7-1); 3, Birchwood Sun (4-f fav) 18 ran. 5l, 1), J Berry Tote-£4 70; £2.60, £2.30, £1.90 DF, £31.90 CSF: £35.62.

CSF: ISS.SC. 3.50 (5f) 1, Whitz Kid (C Carver, 4-1 lev). 2, Dominelle (12-1), 3, DMain (9-2), 10 ran NR: Flying The Flag, 24, nl., J Brad-ley, Totac 54.90, £1.90, £4.30, £1.50. DF. 256 50, CSF, £47 03, Tricast: £208 83. 4.20 (7) 1, Northern Spring (K Darley, 13-8); 2, Naboressar (11-8 lav); 3, Crme-mon Lady (25-1), 16 ran. 1), 4l. M Heston-Elia, Tota: \$2,50, \$1.10, \$1.20, \$2.20, DF. \$2,30, CSF: \$3.51.

4.50 (1m 3) 1. Patehalidhair (J McAuley, 11-2); 2. Manful (14-1); 3. Dr Woodstock (12-1), 4. Gariis Set (5-2 law) 17 nan '4. %. B Elison, Toter £6.50; £1.80, £2.60, £4.20. £1.10. DF; £46.10. CSF; £66.50. Treast £672.47.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £69,156.28 carried forward to Newmarket today).

Going: good, becoming good to firm 2.00 (5/59yd) 1, Seazum (T Quint, 7-2 (-lav); 2, Blue Velvet (33-1); 3, Cedar Mas-ter (16-1), Ignie 7-2 (-lav, 14 ran, NR, Rus-sian Fox, 2-1), 1 M M Carmon, Total S5.90; 22.70, 26.30, £4.30 DF £65.90 CSF £132.76.

2.36 (5) 59yd) 1, Celtic Venture (P Dos, 33-1); 2, Johnny Staccato (11-1); 3, Marguni (7-4 lav) 12 ran, 114, hd. Julian Pouton, Tota: 225, 70, 58 10, 52,30, 51,30, DF £157,00, CSF, £317,59. 2157.00. CSP: £317.59. 3.00 (1m 31 196)cll 1. Caernarion Bay (T Court. 8-1; Rob Wright's map), 2, Pay Homage (14-1); 3, Matreya (20-1), 4, Hur-gill Dancer (25-1) Admirals Secret 7-2 fav. 17 ran. NR. Forbes Park. Hd. 11 G.L.

£1,97.61.
3.30 (77214yd) 1, Mansas Muse (7 Quiru, 13-2); 2, Sky Dome (15-8 tav); 3, Grand Slam (7-1), 7 ran 14, 21, M Channon, Tote: £3,90; £3,10, £1,60. DF: £13,80. CSF. £16,66. After a stewards' inquiry, Bold Oriential, who finished second, was disquafted and placed lest. 4.00 (5/213yd) 1, Alpen Wolf (Martin Dwyer, 10-1), 2, Uplitting (9-1), 3, Myttons Mistake (10-1), Newlands Corner 11-2 fev. 13 ran, NR: Muzasawwar Hd, sh hd. W Muir. Toke: £12.20; £2.70, £2.20, £3.10. DF £59.50, CSF: £88.01, Tricast £575.72.

A.30 (1m 1f 209yd) 1, Lamerie (Dane O'Neil, 100-30): 2, Lucky Gitano (4-7 favi, 3, Sharh (6-1) 8 ran 11-1, hd. R Hannon. Tota. £ 4-0, £1.50, £1.10, £1.60 DF £1.90. CSF: £5.20. 5.00 (7 214yd) 1, Mellors (K Fallon, 9-2 Jav), 2, Prospector's Cove (5-1); 3, Moon At Night (12-1), 14 ren. NR: Crested Knight. 11, 34 M Heeton-Ellis. Tote. £6 00; 22.10, £1 80, £4.10. DF; £10 30 CSF £22.65 Tricas! £235.90.

525,05 (104s); 1230,90.

5.30 (124yd) 1, Mutabassir (1 Ounn.
13-8 lay), 2, Arden (12-1), 3, Clonos (16-1), 15 ran. 8, 11, G I, Moore, Tots. 52 50; 51.50, 52.30, 57.80 DF; 521.60 CSF, 522.28, Tricast: 5253.70. Placepot: £454.80. Quadpot: £71.70.

Wolverhampton Going: standard

2.10 (St) 1, Richard Anadell (J Culm. 100-30); 2, Kirsch (11-4 fav) 3, Damond Olwis (14-1) 11 ran. ½, 1½, N Littmoden Tote: £4 80, £3 80, £1 80, £4.10. DF £12.60 CSF; £12.73. 2.40 (63) 1, River Ensign (Niss K Rockey, 5-1), 2, Grand Edate (6-4 fav); 3, Not? Deed (6-1), 11 ran, 1/4, 5t W Brisbourns Tote 26.20, 21.40, 21.50, £1.70. DF 28.30, CSF: £11 57.

THE NUMBER OF STREET 3.10 (6f) 1. Night Life (J Culm, evens fav, Our Newmarket correspondent's rapp); 2. Guest of Honour (7-1); 3. Polv Mis (5-1), 10 ran, NR, Risky Valentins Hd, 5l, M Bell, Tote: £1 50; £1 20, £1.50, £1 80. DF £7.00 CSF, £8 31 Tinast 255.98

3.40 (6f) 1, Taithfild (Miss R Clark, 46 lav), 2, Palacegale Touch (11-4) 3 Life (bnr (7-1), 11 ran 5, 3 L D Chapman Tote: £1 90; £1,10, £1,10, £2 00. DF 29 to £55; co m 22.00, CSF 22.73 4.10 (5f) 1. DB (Dean McKeown, 4-1 lav). 2. Consultant (8-1), 3. Mukamab (11-1), 13 rem 11, 34 Mrs N Macauley Tote: 65.90. £1.50, £5.70, £3.10. DF £40.50. Tote The lecta: £1.244.50 CSF £35.70. Tricast £253.08.

4.40 (Im. 11 79yd) 1, West U There (P.M. Cuinn, 13-21; 2, Natherts Hero (6-1); 3, Listle (12-1). Billichang (Alth) 2-1 lav. 9 ratt 21, '14. R Hollinshead. Tote. £5.50; £1.40. £3.50. £1.90. DF; £13.70, CSF £43.35. 5-10 (1m 4f) 1, Strany Chair (G Duffeld, 5-2 kay), 2, Netherhal (10-1); 3, Jame Am (12-1) 11 ran 5, 11! Sir Mark Prescot. Tote: £3.10 £1 10, £5.00, £4.20 DF £58.00. CSF £32 10. Tricast £262.39.

Placepot: \$37,20. Company Section

Godolphin looks to Mukhalif for classic boost

By CHRIS MCGRATH

GODOLPHIN begins a mo-mentous weekend by entrusting its royal blue standard to khalif at Newmarket 10day. However the pioneers of Duhai fare in the Kentucky Derby tomorrow, time may reveal this colt as a most auspicipus choice to lead their 1999 cavalry onto the European crave. He makes the short journey from his new base at Moulton Paddocks to the July Course, where he could earn a crack at the very race that first inspired - among countless paler imitations - the "Run For The Roses"

Mukhalif. 20-1 with Coral for the Vodafone Derby, re-vealed the giant strides he has made over the winter in the Godolphin colts' trial at Nad Al Sheba 20 days ago. Uncompromised by the stamina in his pedigree, he mustered enough pace to chase home Island Sands over a mile. His performance in the Green Ridge Stables Newmarket Stakes, then, will be anxiously monitored by Sheikh Mohammed in Churchill Downs. For Mukhalif, who won both his

starts with David Loder last

2.15 Chakra

3.20 Indiana Princess

MUSSELBURGH

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F, LOW BEST SIS

2.15 come trotting in august amateur

RIDERS HANDICAP (£2,836: 5f) (17 runners)

2.45 MUSSELBURGH FAIR DAY RACES

7-4 Amel Jurisirsh, 7-2 Ryelinid, 4-1 Boucittle, 6-1 Sandsbur, 6-1 others.

AWARD CLAIMING STAXES (£2,262: 2m) (7)

3.20 HARNESS RACE MEETING OF THE YEAR

CLASSIFIED STAKES (\$2,626: 1m) (6)

3.55 Nifty Major 4.25 Lady Rachel 5.00 Aberkeen

5.30 Garnock Valley

season, must not only demonstrate his Epsom credentials He must also preserve the rath-cr more imminent classic ambitions of Island Sands in the Sagitta 2000 Guineas.

Island Sands is one of 17 final declarations for the race tomorrow, leaving punters to seek any draw advantage from today's proceedings. The Guineas meeting only visits the July Course because of reconstruction at its usual home on the Rowley Mile, so it is hard to predict whether Cornmander Collins, for instance, will be helped or hindered by starting nearest the stands' rail, in stall No 17. Nick Lees. clerk of the course, is adamant that there will be no advantage. "The July Course is divided into two," he said. "We used the far side at the Craven Meeting but now we're switching to the stands' side, which is all fresh ground. The stalls will be in the centre and should nearly fill across, as the safety limit is not much higher at 23.

"The ground hasn't been watered, which is what usually causes an advantage. Nor is there any Tarmac in the enclo-

sures, from which water could run onto the stands' side, and the trees are too far from the rail to shelter the other side."
If Lees is right, the field may

well split into two and the draw advantage will be reduced to the company kept by each horse. Island Sands, who conceivably find a lead from his stablemate, Easaar, in No 4. The front-running Auction House is not far away in No 6, providing an ideal tow for Compton Admiral in No 7. Many of those drawn in double figures, however, are likely to be held up in a cluster: notably Enrique (10), Orpen (11), Exeat (12) and Mujahid (13). Their riders will be anxious not to become marooned.

Mujahid's trainer, John Dunlop, runs both Rabah and Silver Patriarch in the Sagitta Jockey Club Stakes today. Silver Patriarch, beaten a neck on his reappearance last year. is again likely to show the benefit of this outing in the Vodalone Coronation Cup. André Fabre hopes to consol-idate his fine Newmarket



Greg Searle, pictured above right, was forced to put his back into victory as he retained his Wing-field Sculls title yesterday. Tom Gale, of Huddersfield, kept him under pressure throughout the four-mile Putney to Mortlake course.

Gale, a member of the Great Britain squad, got a dream start in rough water and led Searle by one length after only a minute. However, Searie took the lead at Fulham and led by just over a length at the Mile. Searle did not significantly increase his lead but, on flatter water along Chiswick Eyot, he moved on and led by II seconds at Chiswick Steps, Gale had bravely reduced this margin to nine seconds at the finish

Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Leeds three go where Eagles dared

FOR 12 months, Anthony Far-rell, the juggernaut in the Leeds Rhinos back row, has been pestered by Darren Turner showing off his Shef-field Eagles winner's medal from the Silk Cut Challenge Cup final. Farrell and the Leeds half backs. Daryl Powell and Ryan Sheridan, have special reason to lift the trophy tomorrow after

missing out last year. The trio, plus Andy Hay, who is on the bench at Wembley against London Broncos, were established figures in the Sheffield team. Two-and-a-half years ago, Gary Hetherington left the Eagles, the club that he had founded with his wife, Kath, in 1984, to become chief executive at Leeds. He snapped up Farrell. Sheridan and Hay from his old club, to mutterings about whether Leeds should be recruiting tradesmen.

Hetherington is a shrewd judge of character. His first signing for Sheffield was Pow-ell, who spent 11 seasons with him there, before he was sold Christopher Irvine on the rugby league players hoping for success at Wembley after missing out last year

to Keighley in 1995. The day before his debut, Keighley discovered that there was no place for them in the Super eague. In the summer of 1997, Leeds signed nine of their players, including Powell and Darren Fleary, the prop forward, for £25,000 in an

inspired piece of business. From being destined for the sidings, Powell is running around as sprightly as anyone can with flat feet and a sore calf. No one reads a game better - the fact that lestyn Harris cannot dislodge him from the stand-off half role is powerful evidence - and in his first Challenge Cup final, at 33, he can finally get his reward at club level to go with his 33 appearances for Great Britain.

His one disappointment last year was that Leeds were training in Tunisia and he missed seeing Sheffield beat Wigan in the final. "I'm not one for look-

ing back. 1'd left Sheffield and I was just glad they'd won something, it was difficult at an unfashionable dub to win international honours, but Gary Hetherington pushed me and it's ironic we're both at Wembley all these years later with Leeds," Powell said.

Sheridan, left, Powell and

"This isn't like the Leeds teams of old and that's partly down to the players Gary's signed. There's none of the flash people around. It's a determined, gritty team that's prepared to go 10-0 down and have enough tenacity to win. We can play attractive rugby league and we can tough it out

with anybody if we have to."

If Powell's pedigree was well-documented, Sheridan, an under-21 international scrum half, looked a less sure bet after five years mostly in the shadow of Mark Aston at Sheffield. He did not settle at Leeds initially, but when Graham Murray, the coach. ran him at hooker last season. a spell in the pack worked work ders for his confidence.

Sheridan, 24, a leading candidate for most-improved player this season, said: "I got to appreciate what those forwards go through. Having been at the back of them, and then stuck in the middle of them, you see their side of it. They appreciate someone at scrum half taking the thinking out of their game by telling them which direction to go."

The self-belief of Sheridan,

best seen when he pinched the ball off Danny Peacock to help beat Bradford Bulls in the semi-final, has been a key factor on the road to Wembley and the Great Britain management have been nudged several times in his direction. "I'd love to pull on a Britain jersey, but you only get that through performing week-in and week-out," he said.

Up front. Hay would get more starts than he does were it not for the consistency of the Jamaica-born Farrell, 30, for whom the Sheffield connection is one reason that Leeds are at Wembley. "We're all friends. When the going gets tough, you know they'll be there," he said. At 4.30pm tomorrow, the four former Eagles hope to be showing off their own winner's medals.

ddie Irvine will become the focus of adoration of Italy's ferociously patriotic motor racing fans today on a scale that he might never experience again.

The Uisterman comes to Ferrari's home circuit of imola for the San Marino Grand Prix leading the Formula One world championship and revelling in this brief interlude in his career with the Maranello team, He . is not expected to win races. let alone the world championship, least of all by Michael Schumacher, his team leader, around whom the most famous team in Formula One is built.

livine can leave here as championship leader is as tough as finding a Conservative voter in Scot-land David Coolthard, his McLaren-Mercedes rival, who wen here last year, said

Irvine prepares for brief role as an Italian hero

is a problem. It's not much Kevin Eason finds disheartening. But that's life mours abound that this will use worrying about Eddie and you have got to get on be Irvine's swansong with because he is leading the championship now, because he won't be there at the end of the season."

Irvine also believes that his quest is an uphill struggle and his main challenge this weekend is not to be disbeartened by a car that has failed to live up to its pre-season billing. The McLarens had a 13 second per lap advantage: Finding a voice in the at the last race in Brazil and pitlane who believes that could still be a full second quicker here, a chasm-on a circuit where top speeds will

souch 200mph. Irvine is well aware that today's hero will be Sunday's villain if he and Schumacher who wen here last year, said. fail to live up to the demands simply: "I don't think Eddie of the tifus, who have waited

the Briton looking forward to a battle against the odds

20 years to see a driver win . the world championship to a Ferrari.
It will be a brilliant

atmosphere with the right result for us. If we get spanked by the McLarens on Sunday, we are not going to be very popular with the fans." Irvine said. "One of the reasons I stayed at Ferrari was that I thought I had a chance of fighting with the McLarens and that's not really the case, so it's very disheartening — more than

with it and find a way to close the gap. There is no use crying about it." Ferrari maintained all

winter that they lost the championship last year in the first live races of the season with an uncompetitive car and vowed that this year would be different. To the obvious chagrin of Irvine and Schumacher, the McLarens are still faster and perhaps it is only their Achilles heel of unreliability,

as seen in Australia, where hvine won when both McLarens expired, that holds out a chance of Ferrari victory this weekend. "If I can leave here still in

the lead of the champion-

ship, then I will feel I have achieved something." Irvine said. "You can't always have lack running your way. If I could leave here with a six or seven-point advantage, that would be nice."

Whatever happens, rumours abound that this will Ferrari. He has only a one year contract, worth £3 million, and, at 33, might feel that it is time to move on, perhaps becoming the No I driver with a new team rather than eke out his days in Formula One Schumacher's shadow.

Speculation grows that he wants to join the increasingly confident Jordan team, perhaps as a replacement for Da-mon Hill, if the 1996 world champion decides to retire. Irvine refused to confirm the rumours, saying only: "I have known Eddie [Jordan] a long time, but I haven't thought about next year. This year is more important and we have a lot to do yet."

3.55 neh. wyatt 1998 award winners median **AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-0: £2,682: 51) (8)** 2 LITTLE CHRISTIAN IS N ITOM SHAMMADE 27 (6F) J Berry 9-0 RED REVOLUTION I Barron 9-0 RED REVOLUTION I Barron 9-0 FINAL WHISTLE 18 M James 9-0 FINALED J Godde 9-0 RANISTON (LICY I Emeringion 8-9 J ANGELAND) 16 S Nedlewel 8-9 6 MATERIANI 18 S Nedlewel 8-9 15-8 MBy Major, 7-2 Tirsel Whestle, 9-2 Janicoland, Little Christian, 10-1 others

6-4 Indiana Princest, 2-1 Stashar Just, 7-1 Select Equatoria, 8-1 others.

4.25 MUSSELBURGH AWARD WINNING TEAM HANDICAP (£3,977: 1m 4f) (9) 1 (1) 080- S0 FMTLY 174 (C.F.G.S) K Rien 7-10-0 D G

2 (3) MAJ RAFTWEI 17 (D,E) W Johnson 4-9-11 J Carroli
1 (7) DEDD COM WAY ATTY 9 (6 S) W Stores 5-9-5 T Walking
4 (4) -002 LADY RACHEL 11 (D.F.S) J Eyie 4-8-9
4 (4) -002 LOY RACHEL 11 (0); S) J Eyru 4-8-9
6 EM 015- SING AND DANCE 177 (CD.E) E Weymes 6-7-12-P Fessey
7 (8) 0-04 BEAU ROBERTO 10 (F.S) J Goldle 5-7-10 . L Charmock
8 (2) 5360 AMRIDEXTROUS 34 (CD.F.G) & Alsion (-/-10 V/ S4004)
9 (5) 23-6 MARUSOL 29 P Montesth 6-7-10 D Mermaghi (5)
11-4 Lady Rachel, 9-2 Beau Roberts, F1-2 Silently, 6-1 Columy Ritz, 13-2 Ra
ing. 8-1 Sing And Daylor, 10-1 Terrazzo, Ambidearrus, 25-1 Marsol.
of all sufficient in Light with the same of the same o

5.00 TROTTING IS FUN AT MUSSELBURGH HANDICAP (Div i: £2,388: 71 30yd) (14)



5.30 TROTTING IS FUN AT MUSSELBURGH HANDICAP (Drv II: £2,388: 7t 30yd) (14)



4-1 Garanci, Valley, 5-1 Time (1) Night, 6-1 John Browtler Music, 7-1 Republic, 8-1 Kamhudy, 10-1 Donna's Double, May, 14-1 others. **COURSE SPECIALISTS**

TRANSERS: I Emerington, 7 aurorers from 27 turnters, 25,9%, J FitzGerald, 3 turn 12, 250%; J Berry, 37 from 163, 22.7%, 1 Lleyd, James, 3 from 14, 21.4%, I Barron, 7 kom 34, 20.6%, 54 V Exceelys, 7 from 35, 20.0%, 30.00%,

SEDGEFIELD

ROB WE	RIGHT
5.35 Barley Meadow	7.05 Coole Abbey
6.05 Topothenorthracing	7.35 Galen
6.35 Heavy Hustler	8.05 Lucky Master
Carl Evans: 7.05 Coole Al	bbey.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO FIRM IN PLACES)

5.35 JOHN N. DUNN HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,430: 2m 1i) (15 runners)

1 6006 MARAUD 11 (B.F.G) M Soversby 5-12-0 N N Navohice (5)
2 OOR MOLLEKSBURN 76 Mrs M Reveloy 8-11-9 July T Computers (7)
3 DDSS 17000H TOWN 11 89.0.63 W Thurndons 5-11-8 . Mr M Thurndon
4 1233 OREL LAD 11 (CD.F.G) Lates & Mallouin R-11-6 July J Crewbey (5)
5 5308 MISTER SANDROVITCH 24 (D,S) IT Falsy 6-11-5L Wyer
8 1243 BARLEY MEADOW 135 (V.T.G) # Fold 7-11-4 .M Hornocks (3)
7 4022 FIRST IN THE FIELD 11 (S) N Mason 8-11-3 R Guint
8 FAAG CREMA PARADISO 105 N Richards 5-11-3
8 3P4- SEAHAWK RETRIEVER 338 (D.F.S) S Charamel 10-11-8
18 UP24 DAMEN'S CHOICE 7 (89) P Eccles 7-10-12M Scales (7)
18 UP24 DAMEN'S CHOICE 7 (SP) F Eccles 7-10-12
11 DOSE ATLANTIC POWER 6 W Storey 6-10-7 C McCommick (3)
12 OFFID MIGHT WANK 129F (1) May V Ward 7-10-7R Thomson
13 DOPO RATHURE 63 (7) J Corts 7-10-7 O McPhul (5)
14 OF P BALLYKESSANDEL 314 N Byook 6-10-8 6 Lee
15 PPPO SON OF TEMPO 80 (1) Mrs K Lamb 10-10-0 Burks
4-1 Crief Last 5-1 Mister Sapatronisch, 11-2 First in The Field, 8-1 Union Town,
Darden's Choice, 10-1 Molfusburn, Barley Mendon, Aliantic Power, 12-1 ethers.

6.05 JOHN WADE GROUP OF COMPANIES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (FINAL) (£8,676: 2m 5f 110yd) (18) · 1 00P1 MARCHANT WING 25 (B.G.S) H Alexander 7-12-0 _ N Bendey

ı	2	5450	CHAPITY CRUSADER 136 (BLCD.F.C) Mrs M Reviewy U-11-	13
	6	0436 3581	ETERNAL CITY 27 (D.F.G.) N Richards 8-11-9 A. DARRANO 25 (8.5) T Easterly 8-11-7 C MCCorn TOPOTHENORTHRACING 25 (CO.F.G.S) P Beaucard 8-11-	Doh
	6	4136	STRONG JOHN 157 (7,00,F,6,5) M Soversby 11-11-6 Mr J Cros	TR
L	7	1,464	NOTE INCREMANT 25 (G) Mrs M Reveloy 8-71-5 Mr A De	
	8	BD22	KAKASHDA 45 J Howard Johnson 8-11-3	Dor
ı	9	0001	PAREDORAS LORD 25 (G) J Wainwright 5-11-1	12
	10	1633	LORD PAT 41 (C.S) Mess # Milleson 8-11-1F	l Gu
	11	3610	PALSANDER 23 (T.S) R Ford 5-10-13 IL Horro	da.
ı	12	3063	CAMBO 25 (CD.F.G.5) VI Barks 13-10-12	de
1	49	-	CHIPM SENTEN STORY CO. BURN 3 45 10 C.	

13 (6502 SAUCY NON 21 (6.CO) F (5) F Hsq. 7-10-12 _____ E Hasband 14 2500 HARKNESS WARRIOR 27 (1) H Alexande 5-10-11 W Dowling (5) 15 1003 CAMDEN FELLOW 45 (7) P Eccles 6-10-10 _____ R Thombon 16 P-3F CAROL AGAIN 21 W Byrout 7-10-10 _____ G Lee 11-2 Topolhemorthracing, 7-1 Lord Pal, 8-1 Strong John, Parsonas Lord, 10-1 Con by Cusador, Nobile Norman, Kalasinda, Cambo, 12-1 editer.

6.35 DOF FAIRS NOVICES CHASE (£3,254; 2m 5f) (13)

7 P218 HEAVY HUSTLER 11 (CD.F.S) J Howard Johnson 8-12-0
C McCormack (3)
2 00F0 CRAIGARY 6 (G) Min A Sentema 8-11-0
3 0000 DENTICULATA 25 (T.O.F.G.S) P Spottswood 11-11-8.5 Toylor
4 5600 EDSTONE 11 (B) J Darts 7-11-0
5 HOPP GREAT POTENTIAL 11 P Beautions 7-11-0
6 6-04 JUST NED 21 J Haldane 8-11-0 B Storty
7 OOPO LARKSHUL 25 (T.S) J Fit Goods 8-11-0
8 P-PP LOTHEAN COMMODORE 49 N Reduids 9-11-0 A Dobbin
9 M MUNICIPALITY 158 C Egypton 7-11-9
10 -SAF PEPPER POT BOY 188 Mrs M Reveloy 7-11-0Mr A Demostry
11 POSU OUDAALL CROSSETT 24 E Caive 14-11-0
13 1435 TAKEAGENO 24 (T,S) O Sterwood 6-10-9 Id Richards
19 1400 HARAGEMA Ex July & SIGMON & 10.9 OF LANGUAGE

7.05 GUY CHWARD HINTERS CHASE

-UU GUI CURREN NURIENS CINGE
,632: 2m 5f) (9)
1 -162 COOLE ASSEY 18 (SF.F.G) Mrs C Moore 7-12-7 Mr M Bradbarne 2 424P PRIVATE JET 13 (T.F.) 1 A Brown 10-12-3Mr G Martham (7)
3 AF-5 SIVEMEYOURHAND 35 (G) F Chapman 10-12-0 . Mr D Jewell (7) 4 -558 INSIDEOUT 34P (F.S) Mrs L Ward 6-12-0Mrs L Ward (7) 5 5313 ORSWELLTHATENSWELL 13P (F.G) B Tate 8-12-0
6. P3/0F YORMSANGEL 11 (S) 14 Brown 10-12-0
7 - 123 PLOPHICEVA 18 (FS) 8 McHebri 9-11-12 .Mr T Davisson (7) 8 PPSF SPICE BURN 13P N Even 6-11-9
Coole Abbay, 9-4 Florecora, 13-2 LII Diamond, 29-1 Private Jel, 25-1 others.

7.35 MOTHE PROPERTY SERVICES (M.E.) LTD HANDICAP CHASE (£3,852: 3m 3f) (16)

1 SP24 MEPLENS DREAM 25 (F.G.S) O Sherwood 10-12-4 J A McCarthy
2 GEPP CATS RUN 153 (D.F.G.S) J Uoson 11-11-11 C McCommack (3)
I USPS ALY DALEY 25 (C.F.G.S) J Howard Johnson 11-11-9 . D Parker
4 1613 GALE FORCE 6 (BF.C.F.G.S) P Beaumont 8-11-7 B Gritton
5 F-40 JUNE BOX BILLY 11 (C.G.) Mrs / Blown 11-11-1. Mr / Cronces (5)
E 100/ THEMED FOF (G.S) Mrs A Swirtback 8-11-0 J Supple
A SAME THE SECRET OF STATE AND ASSAULT OF THE ASSAU
7 DIT BALDI SE (ELCD.G.S) Mrs M Reveloy 8-11-0 Mr A Dersposy
I JEEU THE TOASTER ZT (C.F.G.S) Mass T Milrogan 12-10-13 H GURSI
N 1220 THE TOASTER 21 (C.F.G.S) Mas V Millingon 12-10-13 R Guest B U-OF DARK DAK 120 (C.F.G.S) J Cords 13-10-13
10 -FILL APACHE RADER 11 (B.T.CO.G.S) F Murphy 7-10-12 A Dobbio
1) 3273 TROUVALLE 25 (F) A Torrell 0-10-7 0 McPtab (5)
12 SPOR DWENS QUEST 17 (C.F.G.S) I Etherhopin 9-10-5 1 Wyer
13 2-P1 JOHAEM 6 (CO.F.S) Mrs E Stark 9-10-2 (6ext
14 SEP CADRILLON 6 (B.S) A J Luckwood 9-10-1 S Taylor
14 Sept Called List & (8.3) A 3 Licenson 7 (0-)
15 P460 COPPERHURST 11 (T.G.S) W Kemp 8-10-0 B Szárzy
16 P/O- MANDIKA 468 (6.5) 5 Proceedings 11-10-9 M H stangence (5)
7-2 Gain Force, 11-2 Galen, 6-1 Merlins Diesen, 7-1 The Tousier, 8-1 others.

8.05 STANLEY RACING NOVICES HURDLE (£2,583: 2m 5f 110yd) (15)

15-8 Lucky Master, 11-4 Classical Dance, 13-2 Gus Beny, 7-1 Wywydd Dance 10-1 Penny Peacermard, 15-1 Johnston s Villa, Richelais, 25-1 Others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRANERS: P Eccles. 4 womers from 12 namers, 33.3%, Mrs A Swindom's 8 Iron 24, 23.5%, Lizu M Reveloy, 53 Iron 228, 23.2%, J FittGerald, 14 from 45, 22.2%, D Smith, 15 from 71, 21.1%, R Take, 3 Iron 15, 22.0%.

ROB WRIGHT	
5.50 Lady Of Gortmerron	7.20 Riparius
3.20 Eskleybrook	7.50 Tombola
3.50 Setton Blake	8.20 Seattle Alley
Carl Evans: 7.50 Tombols	3.

COING: GOOD TO SOFT

5.50 \perp scott furnishers novices hurdle

7 ((EZ-39W. SKI) (12 IGHERS)
9	1 2418 LADY OF EDRINGPOON 18 (D,E,S) II Telson-Davies ?-11-?
n	2 P412 BRONNALOW 13 (T.D.S) No. 8 Walky 6-11-6 C N
í	3 0351 CHARTER RIDGE 13 (C.G.S.) J J (Third 5-11-6
3	5 6401 THE GOOD KNIGHT 27 (D,G) to Necholson 7-11-6W Mar 6 0154 YER 13MBLE 13 (S) J K Dresswell 8-11-6
	7 /P-0 BEAU DUEST 306 & Curribidine 12-11-0
9	9 SCOP BRIBAAUS 19 (8) S Brookstop 7-11-0
900000000000000000000000000000000000000	11 PLP MAGELEN 24 (D.S) K Rainy 7-11-0
3	
•	3-1 The Good knight, 7-2 Lady Di Gotymerou, 4-1 Crayta: Ridge, 13-2 Hi Scaram, 7-1 Brantation, 10-1 Yer (amble, 12-1 Alaghan, 16-1 others

6.20 JONES PECKOVER NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (£4,260: 2m 1f 110yd) (11)

1 3219 DANZA 22 (T.F.G.) N MESON 7-12-0
2 2515 REACH THE CLOUDS 17 (D.G.S) J Upson 7-11-9: R Su
3 PP11 ESMINARION 7 (E.S) II Treston-Cortex 6-11-7 (7ex) .C Llew
4 4514 STURESTY 25 (F.E) G M Moore 7-11-5 Cobe
5 1430 POSITIVO 258 (G.S) Mess C Caree 8-10-8 C V
6 CSUP DACELD 7 (F) H Home 8-10-4 Mr P Plyts
7 03P4 ROYRACE 13 M W Brisbown 7-10-3 R Ma
B DEP'S CHAPLIESMEDARUM 25 (I,G) Nos B Waving B-10-1 _E B
5 4652 JBLS JOY 25 (B) A Sheeter 8-10-1
10 4240 DORMSTON BOYO 6 (V,F) T Wall 9-10-0 FI &
11 PUS1 KATSAR 215 (F) M Hammond 7-10-0 8 Har
5-2 Estimitrack, 9-2 Kesar, 11-2 Dunlesmedariin, 7-1 Reach The Chooks,
Signestry, 3-78 Joy, 10-1 Derteza, Domesion Boyo, 25-1 orbars.
Carried, michay, nort being punched polity and toward

6.50 RED CROSS WEEK SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (\$2.516: 2m 4f) (19)

1 099/	EBEN AL HABEER 37 (B.C.S) D McCala 8-11-10S Wyone
2 73	GOLDEN FILM 25 (T.S) B Lieuchys 14-11-5 R McGrath
3 (103)	LEAFY GROVE 21 J LESSUI 7-11-3
4 3300	HAPPY MANSTRAL 25 Mess S Baster 5-11-2 Bary Lyons
5 506P	REMOUSE 55 (T.C.G) B Cambular 11-11-0R Massay
6 4361	SEFTON BLAKE 21 (7) M Meaning 5-10-12 J Callagram
7060	GAELIC 25 N Twitzion-Davies 7-10-10C Lignerion
8 00015	DUNSTON HEATH 27 (S) & Leav 6-10-9 W Worthington
9 0004	EVENCEL 13 (8) 0 Winde 7-10-8 W Marston
10 556	FAR FINNSH 25 (4) W Clay 5-10-7 G Tormey
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

7-2 Dunston Heath, 4-1 Selton Blato, 7-1 Eventuel, Restrantiest, 8-1 Real Fire. 10-1 Fair Firmish, 14-1 Goldon Film, Add, 16-1 colous.

7.20 WYRHSTAY HUNT SUPPORTERS CLUB HANDICAP CHASE (£5,459: 2m 4f 110yd) (12)



7.50 EASTERN DESTINY NOVICES HUNTERS CHASE (£1,451: 3m 110yd) (5)

3 1/11 THE PAYOSH PLAN TO THE (D.S.) AND LET TOO 11-12-0

MIS C Ford (S)

4 -31U BANTEER BET 19P (BF,D,S) J Groupot 7-11-9 Mr D Copper (7)

5 1/39 SPRING BAVARD 13 (D.S.) K Jones 12-11-9 Mr D S Jones (3)

5-4 Tombola, 2-1 Silverdalesueshol, 3-1 The Parish Pump. 14-1 others.

8.20 CORPORATE BONDING AT THE RACES HANDICAP HURDLE (£4,124: 2m 1f) (7)



COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRARIESS: P R Webber, 7 winners from 27 runners, 25.9%; D Nicholson, 13 from 57, 22 8%; L Largou, 8 from 19, 15 8%, J J O'Nelli, 8 from 52, 15 4%, N Artiston-Doubles, 10 from 67, 44.9%; D androfo, 4 from 22, 14.4%, N JOCKEYS: B Harding, 12 winners from 43 ridge, 27 9%; R Webley, 3 from 15, 200%, C Llawelvin, 12 from 69, 17 4%, W Marson, 9 from 65, 13.6%, R McCardin, 3 from 25, 17 2%, 6 Transey, 4 from 55, 11.4%.

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Cork keeps turning the screw on Kent

By JACK BAILEY

CANTERBURY (second day of four): Kent. with one second-innings wicket in hand, are 49 runs ahead of Derbyshire

IT IS not quite all over yet, despite the extra half-hour having been taken yesterday. But, weather permitted, the mod in the Derbyshire camp should be pretty cheerful when they make an early start home today. A fine all-round performance by Dominic Cork and another good bout of bowling by the formidable Derbyshire seam quartet have thoroughly earned a probable victory in the PPP county championship for their team and it is long odds against them being

Matthew Fleming and Mark Ealham went some way towards restoring Kent's lost cause and pride with a parmership worth 60 runs, after Kent had first surrendered a first-innings lead of 159 and then lost six wickets for 58 in their second innings. Kent's chances of saving this match, however, had by then virtually disappeared.

When he keeps his feet on the ground and his head is not too far in the clouds, there are few more effective cricketers than Dominic Cork. Yesterday it was the Cork we all want to see: responsible, gifted, wholeheartedly committed to a cause beyond his own. In removing Derbyshire from a position of danger, he took his overnight score of seven to 82 with a rich array of strokes tempered with judicious

During an innings of more than three hours, he picked off nine fours and two sixes, one of them rather harshly greeting a new spell by Headley with a vast blow over

Then he moved in to take the wickets of Key and Wells as the early Kent order clattered once more. Poor Wells was leg-before for the second time in this match without playing a stroke.

array of seam bowlers to whom Kent had little answer until Fleming and Ealham came together and before Fleming had one rush of

blood too many.

Kent's last hopes of making a fight of it largely disappeared with the admirable partnership yesterday morning between Cork and Krikken, which was worth 61 runs in all and dispelled once and for all any idea that there were landmines in the pitch. Resolution and a straight bat were the keys to their success. While Cork was aggressive, he took few chances. Krikken was a model of awkward stubbornness, the model of a gutsy professional.

By the time Krikken had been turned inside out by a full-length ball from Headley and was leg-be-fore, the Derbyshire lead was 79 and Cork was in full flow. The last three Derbyshire batsmen sold themselves dearly in terms of their support for the captain. For his part, Cork, by a judicious mix of clean, straight hitting and farming of the bowling, took Derbyshire to the once unlikely position of a first-innings lead of 159.

Cork suffered a painful blow on the elbow — from Min Patel, the Kent slow left-arm bowler, of all people - but although this caused him to retire early from the day's play, it did not prevent him from getting among the wickets when Kent attempted to restore their fortunes with the bat. After Dean had again removed the hapless Fulton with his second ball. Cork and DeFreitas were also early among the wickets.

Then Smith, Derbyshire's fourth seamer, joined in. He bowled Marsh with a beauty and removed both Fleming and Headley, likewise with no assistance from the field. Fleming's innings was characteristically belligerent and useful, but it was Mark Ealham, as he passed a half-century that contained ten fours amid long



Brown, in the field for Warwickshire, jumps to avoid a shot from Irani, of Essex, at Chelmsford yesterday. Photograph: Graham Morris

TRENT BRIDGE (second day of four): Worcestershire, with eight sec-ond-innings wickets in hand, need 191 runs to avoid an innings defeat by Nottinghamshire

THERE were a few raised eyebrows when one of Clive Rice's first decisions on his return to Nottinghamshire as cricket manager was to dispense with the services of Paul Strang, the Zimbabwe legspinner, as their overseas player and replace him with Vasbert

Since he played for Sussex a cou-ple of years ago. Drakes had been trustrated by his failure to break into the West Indies team and had been plying his trade with Border. where last season he took 56 wickets, only two short of the South African record shared by Peter Poliock and Sylvester Clarke.

Drakes began to repay Rice's faith yesterday, taking five for 49 and drawing good support from Alex Wharf. Paul Franks and

That there was still plenty of help for the seamers on a grassy pitch on which Worcestershire had allowed Nottinghamshire to reach 377 for six on the first day was evident when Sheriyar mopped up the tail with three for 18.

The obduracy of Pollard meant that there was no early breakthrough for Nottinghamshire and it was not until he had made 20 in 22 overs that he got a good ball from Wharf and was brilliantly caught by the excellent Read, div-

ing a long way to his left.

Drakes then struck the decisive blows, removing Hick with a ball which left him off the seam, Solanki with extra bounce and Leatherdale with one which ripped out his off-stump as he offered no stroke. all in the space of 18 balls. Weston, who retired hurt when

Hick was out after being struck in the groin, returned to make a gal-lant 45, but with Lampitt unable to bat after breaking a finger in the

Impressive Drakes Languid Essex show makes decisive start little to stir the soul

By Thrasy Petropoulos

CHELMSFORD (second day of four): Warwickshire, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, are 94 only 14 scoring strokes in 121 balls runs ahead of Essex was crying out for impetus, was crying out f

IT IS an enduring paradox that Essex, a county whose championship form has been so indifferent of late, should retain such visible support. The reward for a healthy gathering of spectators yesterday was a colourless display of batting, delivered at a funereal pace in a match that is, in theory, very much alive. On a pitch of little life, Warwick-

shire had no option but to sit back and wait for batsmen to commit errors, coment in the knowledge that their first-innings total of 271 was always likely to be beyond Essex's capabilities, and on this evidence, their ambitions. They were eventually dismissed for 191.

Ronnie Irani, the only batsman to buck the trend of underachievement at Chelmsford last year, was inexplicably subdued, labouring 91 balls over his 12 runs before driving Graeme Welch to extra-cover. Similarly, Paul Grayson, with whom lunch at a time when the innines

The shame for Essex was that Stuart Law shone only briefly before receiving the ball of the day from Tim Munton. A sweetly timed cover drive off Welch, and two further boundaries through deft leg glances were Law's first three scoring strokes but, on reaching 33, he was undone by a beauty from Munton that left the batsman squared up and lacking an off stump.

That dismissal capped a particu-larly impressive spell from Munton in which he bowled with rhythm and zest, conceding only four runs in eight overs. He had earlier removed Nasser Hussain with a turnbling return catch, and concluded the innings by trapping Peter Such leg-before with the new ball. Warwickshire's efforts to add to

their lead of 80 were set back when flott took the wickets of Nick

Somerset marvel as Cox shows his worth

By JOHN THICKNESSE

TAUNTON (first day of four: Yorkshire won 10ss): Somerset have scored 362 for six wickets against

JAMIE COX yesterday launched himself into county championship cricket with an immings possibly as pure and fluent as any overseas batsman has played in the 30-odd years since immediate imports were allowed in the English game. Cox. 29, the vice-captain of Tas-

mania, scored 173 in 325 minutes for Somerset against Yorkshire and played hardly a false stroke let alone gave a chance. A straight-backed six-footer, remarkably simi-lar in build to Greg Blewett, his fel-low countryman, whose role was that of impotent spectator in the covers. Cox displayed a range of strokes off either foot that left York-

shire utterly defenceless.
"When we signed him we were told we were getting an accumulator, but I can see he is a little more than that." a delighted member of Somerset's administrative staff said after Cox had effortlessly cleared the press box with an on-drive off Vaughan.

In so far as Yorkshire fed Cox's off-side strength with a surfeit of half-volleys, and later long hops, they had only themselves to blame. But Cox's brilliance understandably unsettled seamers short of practice and, like most contemporary Australians, his recognition of the

quick single was exemplary. Though Hamilton failed to add to the 41 wickets he had taken in Yorkshire's previous six four-day matches, he bowled the best line of the seam quintet but after Silverwood's first over, the last ball of which cut back the best part of a foot to clip Bowler's off stump, there was little movement for the bowlers.

Cox, a textbook stylist, faced 247 balls and hit 25 fours, mainly straight or through the covers. He played one poor stroke in the morning, a waft at a worthless ball from Hoggard, but nothing unsightly after that until the stroke that cost his wicket, when he drove distractedly at Sidebottom and was



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Blackballing

Renshaw's line leaves Durham facing lengthy battle

CHESTER-LE-STREET (second day of four): Durham, with eight second-innings wickets in hand, need 119 runs to avoid an innings defeat by

Somerse

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AT THE fall of each Durham wicker. the Hampshire fielders joined in a circle and linked arms in a replica of the huddle that became a symbol of Leicestershire's march to the championship three years ago. Hampshire may not possess the strength in depth to match that achievement, but they are a purposeful, improving side with a strong team ethic.

On this evidence they are also far too disciplined for Durham, who capitulated against accurate seam bowling after lunch yesterday and, after following on 199 runs behind, need to offer far more resilient defence today on a pitch that is beginning to see the odd ball shoot through low if they are to avoid defeat with a day to spare.

When Stephenson bowled Harmi-

son with the last ball before tea to end the first innings on 167, a Durham member was heard to ask: "Can it get any worse?" Unfortunately, where his county is concerned, the answer is always "yes", but if the judgment of BY RICHARD HOBSON

too many Durham batsmen was unwise in the extreme, then Hampshire can also take credit for their own work in the field.

In particular, Simon Renshaw, a medium-pace bowler, who suffered ankle problems for most of last season, changed his pace intelligently and gained plentiful reward for respecting the old-fashioned virtues of line and length by removing four of the first seven Durham batsmen during a 6.5-over spell in which he conceded 16 runs.

The departure of John Morris, when the home side sat in apparent comfort on 96 for two, heralded this collapse, which also embraced an uncharacteristic mistake by Boon against clever bowling by Mascarenhas. Expecting another hall to move away, the Tasmanian, who values his wicket very highly.

to see the ball nip back to hit the off When Collingwood and Speight fell in the same Renshaw over and

shouldered arms and was surprised

Stephenson held a blinding, onehanded catch at slip to remove Betts. the tail could only embark upon a damage-limitation exercise. Mascar enhas, skidding the ball through, then won leg-before decisions against Lewis and Morris when Durham tried again.

flinching. He resumes on 26 this

Only two batsmen, Daley and Gough, emerged in credit. Daley, composed and organised, batted 154 minutes for his unbeaten 43 in the first innings while Gough withstood a hostile spell from McLean without

Flintoff's power impresses

By Mark Baldwin

IFICESTER (second day of (our): Leicestershire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 151 runs ahead of

IAN BOTHAM will be at Grace Road this morning, playing an ambassadorial role and offering opinions on the forthcoming World Cup. He will feel at home, for this has been quite a match for allrounders.

Chris Lewis, the dominant force in the opening exchanges found himself sharing centre stage yesterday with the helty frame of Andrew Flintoff, who is, by some distance, the form horse of an England stable that seems prey to some mystery virus.

Because of his physique and character, Flintoff has already had to deal with the Botham comparisons that weighed so heavily, on talented players such as Derek Pringle, Phil De-Freitas and Dominic Cork. Lewis, of course, has never been regarded as the "real thing" - especially by Botham himself.

But here he was, converting his overnight 77 into a second successive PPP county championship century, stretching his last-wicket stand with Matthew Brimson to 123 and then quickly, removing Crawley and Lloyd on his way to fig-

ures of three for 18. The difference in quality between the two seam attacks, and the extra pace generated by the Leicestershire trio of Lewis, Kasprowicz and Mullally, is likely to prove the deciding factor in this game.

Mulially was understandably rusty in his first bowl of the season, but the England selectors will be pleased that he came through his 17 overs, which yielded two wickets. with no sign of the side strain that affected him in Sharjah.

Without Flintoff yesterday Lancashire would have been simply swept aside, rather than managing to creep past

NORTHAMPTON (second

day of four): Northampton-shire, with eight second-in-

nings wickets in hand, are 80

ADAM HOLLIOAKE has an

exacting summer ahead of

him. It could be said to have be-

gun in Sharjah, but the in-

nings that he played yesterday was his first of any signifi-

cance. Before he ran himself

out when looking to steal the

strike and the handful of runs

he needed for his century, his

eye was in to the extent that he

timed the ball with rare skill

Hollicake, who will revert to

captaining Surrey when the

World Cup is over, had only

had one previous first-class

innings to follow one match in

for the time of year.

runs ahead of Surrey

the follow-on mark. The running out of Wood, after a mixup, and the freak dismissal of Watkinson, caught off silly point's boot at extra cover, did not help their cause.

The power of Flintoff's hitting is quite awesome. His international breakthrough in Sharjah, and his 143 off 66 balls against Essex last Sunday, have raised hopes that he can make a huge impact in the next two months.

Like Botham, he has good basic technique and yesterday. while the rest of the Lancashire batsmen struggled to survive, Flintoff had the ability to take the fight to the bowiers. After getting off the mark with a pull for four off Lewis, he then took on Kasprowicz with two straight drives and a crunching square cut. He did need some good fortune on this seaming pitch — a couple of his fours came off the inside edge — but otherwise his strokes were of the highest class. He reached his fifty by

swinging Wells for six in an over that also brought him two lofted fours. Another six followed, hit straight back past Mulially. Whereas Botham used to release his massive power with an extraordinary follow-through, Flintoff merely dismisses the ball with a

It took a ball from Kasprowicz that kept a little low, after pitching near a spot from which several balls had reared, to dismiss him for 86. Leicestershire are already

playing like champions again. but Day Whatmore, the Lancashire coach, did provide some better news for last season's runners-up by confirming that Michael Atherton plans to return on May 14, the day that England open the World Cup against Sri Lanka. Whatmore, who coached Sri Lanka when they won in 1996, still believes England erred in not allowing Atherton more time to prove

Hollioake blooms early

By IVO TENNANT

that the county's scorer had to

So well did the older Hollio-

ake time his drives yesterday

that he was hitting Malcolm

back over his head and taking

a step down the pitch to Taylor towards the end of his innings.

He gave one chance, to second

slip when he had made 76,

and it would be fair to assume

he would have reached a centu-

ry if Shahid had been able to

bat properly. He was in the pa-vilion, having broken his left

wrist when facing Malcolm

the previous evening, and was

unable to grip his bat with

both hands. Mindful, though,

that his side could have done

with another batting point, he

Malcolm and Taylor were

nobly returned to the middle.

check that it really did occur.



Russell leads the Gloucestershire celebrations as Barnett, centre, catches Weekes off the bowling of Snape

Ramprakash enjoys his pudding

BRISTOL (second day of four): Middlesex, with five first-innings wickets in hand. are 101 runs behind Glouces-

PUDDING-LIKE pitches such as this - or stodgy, as one Gloucestershire player called it - do not tend to produce good cricket or cricketers, but those who came to Nevil Road yesterday were given a masterclass in how to bat on such surfaces by Mark Ramprakash, who stands on 76 overnight.

This was a functional rather than exuberant innings from the Middlesex captain, but it was expertly tailored to the conditions. He proceeded carefully at all times because his team, at one point 122 for five, needed something strong from him. He needed runs, ioo, after scoring only 52 troii his previous four innings this

Not that Ramprakash has been out of form, merely short of time in the middle. For 44 hours yesterday, he ushered Middlesex towards respectability, emerging sporadically from near-watertight defence

still bowling and Shahid did

manage to connect with one

single-handed waft outside off

stump. Alas, such endeavour

was not rewarded. Hollioake

called him for a bye in the next

over, even though the ball had gone straight to the wicket-

keeper, and ran himself out

four runs short of a century.

He had struck 15 fours and a

There was little that was

notable about the rest of the in-

nings. Butcher reached a half-

century before Taylor drew him into a mistimed drive.

Brown clubbed the ball

around, disregarding the

bounce in the pitch. Surrey fin-

ished with a lead of 38, but fur-

ther resolution from Bailey

and more vigorous batting by

Love gave Northamptonshire

an advantage by the close.

By Geoffrey Dean with attacking strokes of per-

fect pedigree. On such a slow pitch, timing the ball has been a problem for batsmen, but Ramprakash's was so good that it seemed to have been barely affected. He played both late and straight, twice pushing perfectly respectable deliveries from Lewis to the long-on boundary through timing alone. When the opportunity to drive came - albeit rarely he did so, reaching his fifty

off 159 balls with a classical

cover drive. Throughout, he was watchfulness itself, head down and foot pushed forward at every opportunity.

Assisting Ramprakash in Middlesen's spirited fight-back was David Nash, the junior partner in a an unbeaten sixth-wicket stand of 71 that spanned the entire final session. It was already worth 65 when Nash was missed off a difficult chance at the wicket in Barnett's first over. Ramprakash gave no chances, although he was fortunate in

SCOREBOARD FROM BRISTOL

I Deawlord Creek of Prevent
J N Snape flow b Fraser
1/R C Russell llow b Fraser
J Lewis c Langer b Fraser
J Lewis c Langer b Fraser
J M M Avera rod out
A M Smith b Sheh,
Ednae (b 1, 10 13, nb 4)

M A Roseberry Ibw b Smith...
J L Langer Ibw b Lawle.
M R Ramprakash nol out....
R A Ketisborough b Lewis P N Westag c Barrett b Shepe 6 †D C Nash not out 29 Extres (b 12, no 12) 24 Total (5 with, 82 overs) 196

J P Hewell, S J Cook, A R C Fraser and P C R Tutnes to bal. FALL OF WICKETS: 1-36, 2-73, 3-93, 4-94, 5-122

5712 BOWENG: Smith 18-4-42-1, Lewis 17-4-54-2; Avens 15-3-44-0, Alleyna 19-6-30-1; Snape 11-5-6-1; Barnell 2-0-8-0.

Sussex assume command

his twenties when an edge off Lewis flew wide of the slips for one of his 12 fours.

For the main part. Glouces-tershire bowled pretty well and to the fullish length required on this pitch. Smith beat Roseberry with his trademark inswinger and Lewis took the key wicket of Langer. who made 43, with a ball that also dipped in.

Alleyne did a manful job, running into a cold wind all day and mixing up his box of tricks. These included slower balls, bouncers when Russell was standing up and an absolute pearl that straightened to dip the top of Shah's off stump. Snape also did a sterling containing job with his off breaks, picking up the wicket of Weekes courtesy of a bat-pad catch at silly point.

The Gloucestershire tail lunch, with the last-wicket pair denying Fraser a deserved five-wicket haul. Less gratifying for Gloucestershire was the news that Harvey, their Australian all-rounder. will be out for the next two weeks with a pinched nerve in

his back.

Leicestersbire v Lancashire

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

PPP county championship Durham v Hampshire CHESTERLE-STREET (second day of touri-Dutham, with eight second-interings wickers in hand need (19 runs to avoid an innings defeat against Hampshiro

ennings defeat against Hampshiro HAMPSHIRE: First Intengs G W White C Lears b Hamsson JP Stephenson c Leas b Brown W S kendullic Spegtr b Wood 'R A Smith c Betts o Wood IA N Aymes c and b Wood IA N Aymes c and b Wood JA N Hamssarethas b Colmigwood S D Udat 'nor cut A C Morrs c Collingwood b Brown A M McCean ir Gough b Betts S J Renshaw Iow b Brown Edites (b 4 ib M, nb 24) Total (1184 owers).

Edite: (b 4 to Ni, rb 24) 42 Total (1184 overs) 358 FALL OF WICKETS 1-21 3-39, 3-70, 4-210, 5-262 6-322 7-255, 8-349, 9-347 BOWLING Brown 29, 48-88-3 Buttle 25-8-64-1, Harmson 18-2-85-1, Wood 25-8-64-3 Gough 7-2-23-0 Collegended 12-2-29-1

DURHAM: First innings. **D C book of Mescapinas*
IM P Specific Stephenson to Rengil
M M Spris c Stephenson to Rengil
M M Spris c Stephenson to Monte
J Wood to Monte
S J E Brown tow to Stephenson
S J Harmscon to Stophenson
Extras (b 5, 10 5 w 2, nb 12)

Second limings
J B Lewis two b Maccarentus
M A Gough not out
JE Morris tow b Maccarentus
JA Daley not out
Extras (0.8, 10.3, w. 2, no.6) Total (2 wkts, 30 overs). FALL OF WICKETS 1-45, 2-59 BOWLING McLean 7-2-35-0, Renshaw 7-5-9-0 Monts 6-0-21-0 Mascarennas 6-2-10-2, Usal 2-1-3-0 Bonus points, Durham 4 Hampshee 8 Umpires N A Mallender and K E Palme

Essex v Warwickshire CHELMSFORD (second day of lour) War washine with eight second-minings suc-ols in hand, are 94 runs sheed of Essey **WARWICKSHIRE**; First trangs, 271 (N.M.K

Second Immgs
N V knight c Robinson b licit
M A Wagh not our
T A Munton tow b Bott Total (2 wkts, 5 overs)
FALL OF WICKETS, 1-8, 2-8
BOWLING Roll 3-1-5-2; Cowan 2-0-8-0

PALL OF WINCHES 1-9, 2-9

ESSENCE First Innings

P. J. Protraind the b Goddine 10

D. D. J. Richinson the b Goddine 29

M. C. Stort low b Goddine 39

M. C. Stort low b Goddine 39

M. C. Stort low b Goddine 39

M. C. Iran e. Lemp b Welch 12

A.P. Grayson e. Nrught b Smith 29

M. P. William Tow b Smith 29

M. J. Hyarm Tow b Smith 29

A.P. Cowan rol out. 23

J. D. Grove b Goddine 7

P. M. Such the b Munition 1

Extrass (b. 2, 10, 2) 11

FALL DE WICKETS 1-12, 2, 31, 3-48, 4-86, 3-95, 5-122, 7-148, 8-164, 9-190

BOWLING Goddins 23-8-42-4, Welch 21-8-47-1, Munition 21 1-8-44-3; Giles 32-15-450, Smith 8-4-11-2

Borus porns, Essen 4 Wanwicksher 8

Restreet. 10 September 10 16 September 11 C Sept

Bonus points, Essei, 4 Warwickshire 6 Umpres J.C. Balderstone and C.R. Shepherd.

Glamorgan v Sussex CARDIFF (second day of four) Sussex, with five second-immos wickers in hand, are 209 runs ahead of Glamorgan

Second innings

BOWLING. Washin 8-2-18-0; Thomas 10-2-42-1; Date 7-5-11-0; Croft 14-3-37-3. Janes 5-0-14-0; Cosher 6-2-13-0

GLAMORGANE First Immgs GLAMORGAN: First Immigs

\$ P James c Perce b Kirtey. 14

A W Evens by b Kirtey. 14

A Date ther b Roberson. 12

D A Coster b Kirtey. 49

K Nowel bur b Roberson. 6

R D B Crott b Kirtey. 01

A D Show C D Vanuto b Mann-Jenkins 16

\$ D Thomas c Dt Vanuto b Kirtey 18

\$ P Jones c Dt Venuto b Kirtey 18

\$ P Jones c Dt Venuto b Kirtey 18

\$ P Jones c Dt Venuto b Kirtey 18

\$ P Jones c Dt Venuto b Toberson 13

\$ C Watten not out 2

"M P Maynard absent injured. 0

Extras (b 3, nb 2) 5

Total (66.1 overn) 149

FALL DF WICKETS 1-14, 2-38, 3-48, 4-55, 5-68, 6-99, 7-128, 8-137, 9-149

BOWLING: Kirtey 23-6-49-5; Martin-Jenkins

BOWLING: Kirtley 23-6-49-5; Martin-Jenkina 10-2-24-1, Rashad 10-1-31-0. Robinson 20.1-7-27-3, Reo 2-1-1-0; Perce 1-0-14-0 Bonus points Glamorgan 4 Sussex 5 Umpires: J H Hampshire and J H Hams.

Kent v Derbyshire CANTERBURY (second day of four): kent with one second-immigs wickel in hand, are 48 runs shead of Derbyshire KENT: First hrunge 141 (M J Welker 53. h. J Dean 4 for 34) Second Innangs

Second Innings
D P Futton Dwb Dean
A W T Vey C knikken b Cork
A P Wets Ibw b Cork
M J Walter c Cork b Dean
A Symonds c Sister b DeFrestal
M A Egham not out.
15 A Mereth b Smith
"M Y Flemming b Smith
"M Y Flemming b Smith
O W Headley b Smoth
M J McCaque not out.
Extres (b 5, nb 2)
Trotal (9 width, 69 overs)

Ecres (b 5, no 2)

Total (9 wits, 69 overs)

AUL OF WICKETS 1-1, 2-14, 3-17, 4-31, 5-47, 6-58, 7-118, 8-128, 9-159

BOWLING, Corb 9-3-23-2; Dean 16-3-60-3. Defreata 17-4-48-1. Smith 13-4-36-3. Aidred 12-5-30-0. Casson 2-1-6-0

Aldred 12-5-30-0. Cassar (2-1-6-0)
DERBYSHIRE: Firet Innings
M. J. Stater C Fleming b Symonds
A.S. Rollins of key b Headley
F. M. weston nar out
S.P. Trichard c Futton b Eathern
M.E. Cassar low b Headley
D.G. Conk. or Key b Eathern
P.A. J. DeFreitise o Pleming b Eathern
K.M. Krikken Dav b Headley
P. Aldred c Marsh b Eathern
K.J. Dean c Futton b Headley
J. M. Smith not out.

LEICESTER isocond day of lour). Lincosto stare, with one second information industrial hand, are 151 films arread of Lancashire.

LEICESTERSHIPE: First Immigs

V J Wolte 1: Hegg to Green 44
D I Maday e and to Green 66
I I Surditte to Green 66
I I Surditte to Green 66
B F Smith e Private 15
T J Wheeker e Hegg to Chappie 14
A Habb to Friend to Green 12
IP A Nuon ton to Chappie 25
C C Lewis e Chappie 16
M S Naughows 25 to Chappie 16
M S Naughows 25 to Chappie 36
A D Multilly e Liong to Chappie 36
Edras (b 9, 20 12, w 10 no 41 36
Total (115 overs) 73 388
FALL OF WICKETS 1 74 388, 3115
4-145 5-174, 6-195 7-243 8-555 9-755
BOMUNG Chappie 31-9-25 Smethaust 16-34-61 Fundit 13-2-49-0 Green 32-7-88-1 Schooled 13-2-53-0 Walliumoon 8-1-33-0 Obition 2-1-9-9

Second Innings

D L Maddy c Hegg of Chapple 13 Suburite not out M T Brimson not out Editas (to 2) Total (1 wkt, 4 overs FALL CVP WICKET 1-0 BOWLING CHARDIC 2001 STRIBUT

Bonus points, Lecesterance 8 Lancachire 5 Umpires, N. J. Lyons, and A. Clarkson Northamptonshire v Surrey NORTHAMPTON (second day of four). North amplianishe with early second-innings wick-ets in hand, are 80 runs aread of Surrey.

Second innings A J Bakey not out
M L Haydan c Bickhell b Tudor
M B Loye c B C Holloake b Bickhell
F J Vitaren not out
Extas (b 4, b 8, w 4, nb 8) BCWUNG Bicknet 15-5-38-1, Tuda 11-2-32-1, B C Hollioske 8-3-23-0, Saksbur 8-3-13-0

SURREY, First Images,

M.A. Buchar of Rjoky b Tayou
J Ward of Strom of Microsty

N. Shahid not out
G.P. Thorpe tow b Foliett
A.D. Brown or Phylip b Penberthy
A.J. Hollicake run out
B.C. Hollicake tow b Foliett
J.N. Bathy low b Foliett
A.J. Tudor of Baley b Natcom
D.F. K. Salsbury of Waren b Matcohn
M.P. Bicknet of Rpiley b Tayor

Extras (b.8, b.11, w.2, nb.10)

Total (79.3 overs)

EALT, OF WICKETS 1-27, 2-106, 3-106,
4-179, 5-232, 8-248, 7-264, 8-262, 9-283

BOMUNG Matcotm 23.3-3-3-23, Taylor BOWLING Malcoim 23 3-3-82-3 18-3-63-2 Foliet 23-0-64-3 10-5-23-0, Penberthy 6-2-35-1

Notts v Worcestershire TRENT BROGE (second day of lour, Worcestershin, with eight second-mining wickets in hand, need 191 nurs to avoid a minings deteal against Notinighamshire

Innings Gereat against Motingnamental
MOTTINGHAMISHURE: First Innings.
U Alzaet of Rhodes is Leetwortale
R T Robusson of Lampet is Leptrol
JE R Gallian how is Lampet
Johnson of Hick is Ringworth
N A Gair how is Lampet
C M W Read is Sheriyar
V C praises of Hick is Sheriyar
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A G Whard is Sheriyar
A G Whard is Sheriyar
A Whard is Sheriyar
A B Remark Rush is Sheriyar
N Research Rush is Sheriyar Mr N Bowen Dw D Charles R D Stamp not out Extras (b 8, lb 31, w 2, nb 25)

WORCESTERSHIRE: First Wrings

O A Learnercase to Drawas
G R Havynes o Alzasi b Franks
"15 J Rhodes c Gallari b Drawas
R I, lifergouth not out
A Shenyouth by Drawas
A Shenyouth by Drawas
S H Lampti tower to Drawas
S H Lampti dissers injured.
Extras (b 8, 1b 6, 1b 30)
Total (57 6, 66, 65 30) Total (57.4 overs)...

FAIL OF WICHETS 1-62, 2-101, 3-113, 4-124, 5-138, 6-155, 7-160, 8-161, 9-172, BOWLING Drakes 18,4-6-49-5 Franks 14-3-42-1, Bowso 12-5-23-1, Wharl 13-2-44-2

Second immigs P R Pollerd b Bower W P C Weston c Read b Franks G A Hick not out V S Solants not out Extrast (b 1, tb 2, w 3, nb 10). Total (2 wkts, 23 overs)....... FALL OF WICKETS 1-12, 2-28 BOWLING. Drakes 7-4-4-0. Franks 8-2-19-1, Bowen 5-1-16-1 Wharl 3-1-12-0 Bonus points Notis 8 Wordestershire 3 Umpres B Dudleston and R A White

Somerset v Yorkshire TAUNTON (inst day of low, Yorkshire toss). Somerset have accred 362 for wickels against Yorkshire.

SOMERSET: First kirtings Displayer in Sevenwood P D Bowler B Switchwood

**J Cost b Saleboatom

M E Trescothick of McCarath b Hoogard

P C L Hotlower flow b Saleboatom

M Burns o McCarath b Hoogard

J D Men o Wood b White

If J Turner not out

I, A Parsons not out

Entas (16 or b 9)

Total (6 wids, 104 overs)

MPL Bulbeck, A R Caddick and P 5 Jones FALL OF WICKETS 1-6, 2-67, 3-162, 4-300, 5-313, 6-351 SOMLING: Silvenwood 15-5-80-1, Sidebol-lom 19-5-68-2, Hamilton 19-3-61-0, Hog-gard 18-2-50-2, White 22-5-58-1, Vaughan 5-0-24-0; McGraih 4-1-15-0 YORKSHIRE: M.P. Vaughan, G.S. Blewelt, *D. Byas, M.J. Wood, A. McGrafn, C. White †R.J. Blakey. G. M. Hamilton, C.E. W. Silver-wood, M.J. Hoggard, R.J. Schabettorn

T M Smith not out . Editas (b 6, w 4, no 18) ...

Bonus points Kent 4 Derbyshire 7 Umpires, J.W. Holder and R. Palmer

Blackballing makes Scotland see red

A THREE-MAN Scotland bowls team, in Australia for the one-off international today at the Warilla club, near Wooliongong, encountered an antipodean colour bar as soon as they unpacked their bowls for the first practice session.

Sonny Downs, the president of Bowls Australia, was said to have "kicked up a stink" when he saw the mould-breaking bright blue projectiles spilling on to the indoor green, and ruled them out of order.

"They certainly caused quite a stir," Wil-lie Cook, the Scotland team manager, said yesterday. "People were queueing up to take a look. The officials were not happy. but we are conforming to the laws of the

game, and will be playing with them."

Alex Marshall, Willie Wood and Ian Sneddon will also be attired in matching blue clothing. While coloured shirts are gaining in popularity, coloured trousers have not previously been worn at international level.

Coloured bowls, manufactured by Thomas Taylor, were approved by the World BOWLS

By David Rhys Jones

Bowls Board (WBB) in Kuala Lumpur last September, but the WBB inexplicably gave national associations the option to black-ball them in their own countries and Bowls Australia has banned them.

Cynics have suggested, rather unkindly, that Bowls Australia officials are simy protecting their own because Henselite, Australia's leading bowls manufacturer, does not have the technology to produce coloured bowls.

David Le Marquand, from Jersey, became the first competitor to roll coloured bowls in anger on January 14, during the world indoor singles championship at Potters Leisure Resort. Afterwards, bowls followers were split: reformers believe that colour adds a modern touch; traditionalists, even in the United Kingdom, contend that the move will create confusion and devalue the sport.

To the dismay of the progressive lobby, the British Isles Indoor Bowls Council (BI-IBC) have decreed that coloured bowls may not be used at any event which is un-der their jurisdiction. Ron Thomas, the BI-IBC secretary, said: "We think it would be confusing if coloured bowls were to be used indiscriminately, but we are quite prepared to review our decision if and

when coloured bowls become popular." They may not become popular in Ire-land. Dessie Newell, the secretary of the Association of Irish Indoor Bowls, which has yet to deliberate on the matter, said: You must understand that colour in Ireland can be a sensitive issue. Coloured bowls could arouse strong feelings."

Yet Troy Sommerville, the manager of the Warilla club and an Australia international, said: "Our players seem very relaxed about it. They look at coloured bowls as a way of brightening up the game and attracting youngsters."

By John Stern

CARDIFF (second day of four): Sussex, with five secondinnings wickets in hand, are 209 runs ahead of Glamorgan

THE DAY began badly for Glamorgan with the news of an injury to Matthew Maynard, the captain, and got little better as they conceded a firstinnings lead of 73.

Maynard initially thought he had only dislocated his right little finger when it jammed into the turf during a fielding session after the first day. However, it was confirmed yesterday morning that the finger was broken and he will be out for up to six weeks. This time last year, Maynard injured his groin during a warm-up and missed the whole of May as a result.

His absence was sorely felt

by a Glamorgan batting line-up that already lacks depth and experience. Only Dean Cosker, the England A leftarm spinner who had come in as nightwatchman on the first evening, passed 20 in the Glamorgan total of 149. His threehour innings of 49 was his career-best and contained omens of a promising future as an allrounder. He can console him-self that the ball from James Kirtley that denied him a maiden half-century was an exceptionally fine one, squaring him up and hitting the off

Kirtley bowled fast and straight in taking five for 49. three of his dismissals either bowled or leg-before. At the other end Robinson took three who looks an accomplished wicketkeeper, standing up to Sussex took the game away

for 27 off 20.1 overs and benefit-

ed from having Humphries.

from Glamorgan after tea with a tidy and timely innings of 79 not out from Toby Peirce, who, with Montgomerie, has established a productive opening partnership. Peirce is strong off his legs and he and Montgomerie seek the quick single with alacrity. Indeed, the dismissal of Montgomerie was the result of over-zealous running, Newell's throw from deep square leg beating the Sussex opener home.

Croft took three wickets in the final hour, including that of Tony Cottey, his friend and former team-mate, for the second time in the match.

MacArthur has designs on Vendée

THE "Ellen MacArthur Story" reached a milestone at a restaurant in Central London yesterday when her new sponsors Kingfisher, laid on the full razzmatazz to announce the design team for her boat for the 2000 Vendée Globe single-handed round-the-world race.

Before an invited audience of over 150. including many top British yachtsmen and sailing writers from this country and abroad, a slick presentation placed MacArthur in a glorious tradition of British single-handers that started with Sir Francis Chichester in the 1960s.

Michael Hingston, director of corporate affairs at Kingfisher, spoke warmly of the woman who only four years ago was sailing round Britain in a 21st cruiser paid for with pocket money. "We think Ellen is a supreme example of the selfstarter." he said. "Young people everywhere warm to her example and if by sponsoring her, we can encourage other people to go for their dreams, we think that will be an added bonus."

SAILING By Edward Gorman

To judge by the expenditure and professionalism of the proceedings yesterday, it is clear that MacArthur, who is still only 22, is going to be the beneficiary of one of the most complete sailing sponsorships seen in this country, with a budget of £2 million over two years.

MacArthur and Mark Turner, her project manager, have decided not to commission Jean-Marie Finot and Pascal Cong, the French naval architects who have dominated Open 60 design in recent years, opting instead for a fourman team consisting of the designers. Rob Humphreys, and Merfyn Owen, plus Alain Gautier, the former Vendée Globe winner, and a technical expert. Giovanni Belgrano, of SP Technologies. The decision is a risk, but one which

arguing that the new safety criteria being introduced to improve stability in Open 60s makes this a good time for a new team to come into the class. "In the end we decided that the interna-

Turner believes is well worth taking

tional team approach would best suit our performance, safety and Kinglisher's obectives." Turner said. There is a strong French influence and that is consistent with our strategy of working with experts

MacArthur will be busy with a hectic schedule of racing and training in the run-up to the start of the Vendée in November 2000. Among the highlights will be the Round Europe Race and the Transat Jacques Vabre, with Yves Parlier, and Laser 4000 racing with Paul Brotherton, the Olympic helmsman.

This has been my dream from an early age." MacArthur said. "It has taken a lot of sweat to get this far. For the first time I've the proper funds to compete on an even level and I'm out there to win."

MUXHAN

Liverpool

focus on

service

TTTT CAMARA, the Marseilles striker, is close to agreeing a £3.5 million

transfer to Liverpool.

Gerard Houllier, the Liverpool manager, said yesterday: "Everythine is

Camara. 27, who has been

agreed with Liverpool and

defender, has signed a new

five-year contract. It is a

20-year-old has become a

first-team squad, the England Under-21 squad

and, on Wednesday night.

he won his first senior cap

international against

Hungary in Budanest.

become the fifth player at

Ewood Park to be ruled out

season owing to injury. Blake, a Wales international

has damaged his shin and joins Chris Sutton, Garry

of action for the rest of the

for England in the friendly

at Old Trafford. The

reward for Brown's rise to

prominence in the past year

regular member of United's

now I have to secure my release from my contract with

Wes Brown, the Manchester United

Marseilles."

watched for several weeks by

Camara's

Another tycoon to buy his own club

By a Correspondent

ONE of the North East's wealthiest businessmen confirmed yesterday that he has made a takeover bid for Darlington. He is vowing to take the Nationwide League third division club into the FA

Carling Premiership.

George Reynolds, whose fortune has been estimated at £250 million, has been holding talks with club officials for the past week after Darlington's appeal to local businesses for help to clear debts estimated at £3 million.

Yesterday, Reynolds promised to build a new stadium to seat 25,000 and buy players good enough to take the club into the Premiership if his bid, which depends on Mike Peden, the chief executive and majority shareholder standing down, proves successful.

Reynolds, a Sunderland supporter from Shildon, Co

Portadown received a place in the Uefa Cup next season yesterday when the Irish Football Association ex-pelled Cliftonville, their opponents in the Bass Irish Cup final, due to be played in Belfast this weekend, for fielding an ineligible player in a semi-final replay.

Durham, said: "The club asked if I was interested in sponsoring them to help clear their debts. But I quickly realised that the only way forward was for me to buy Mr Peden's holding and take full control. I think the club is a sleeping giant which could make it to the Premiership. My biggest ambition in life is proving people

According to Bernard Lowery, the club's executive direc-tor, an agreement is likely in the next few days. The princi-ples are in place. We just have the legal side to sort out," he said. "I think Mr Reynolds' involvement will be a tremendous boost and very exciting."

Reynolds, a former icecream salesman who started making kitchen worktops in the 1960s, recently made headlines in the area by paying off the mortgages of seven key staff who helped his chipboard business recover after a

Brown takes stock after Scotland surprise European champions

Hutchison generates forward momentum

By KEVIN McCarra

THE 1-0 defeat on Wednesday took Germany by surprise, but the victors in Bremen also ambushed themselves. Scotland were not prepared for the method and eventual excellence of their own performance. The customary batch of withdrawals had forced Craig Brown, the manager, to pick a weakened side for the match and its triumph was so sur-prising that elation was curbed by wonderment.

Late in the game, a clear-ance was lashed into the press box and caught by a Scottish journalist. "Hold on to it." a colleague urged. Given the imminence of Scotland's first away victory over Germany since 1957, the jest was instinc-tive. In truth, though, the ball could safely be left on the field in the second half, so completely had Brown's side made an accomplice of it.

By then, gloating Scots revelled in the kind of incident that saw Allan Johnston, the Sunderland winger, leave Thomas Strunz stumbling. When delight is quite that

must be ephemeral. Will any of the swagger still be evident in the stark landscape of Toftir on June 5, when Scotland face the Faeroe Isles in a European championship

Brown has discarded al-ready the high emotions of Wednesday night and re-tained only facts. Nevertheless, they are encouraging enough. If it is too early to applaud an effective partnership in attack, there is cause to appreciate an intriguing one. Despite the fanciful claims made for Duncan Ferguson, Scotland have been without a tall forward of merit since Joe Jordan's international career ended in 1982.

In Bremen, however, Don Hutchison, of Everton, showed enough power and finesse in the air to give point to the scurrying work under-taken at ground level by Billy Dodds, of Dundee United, who harassed and constrained Lothar Matthäus. For his club, Hutchison is generally selected in midfield and his lack of pace can be a handi-



cap in attack, but, in growing older, he has developed a style that flourishes within his limitations. His touch and distribution are reliable and Germany will vouch for the accuracy with which he dispatches the ball, given that he stroked home the only goal as the culmination of an alert move by Paul Lambert and Callum Davidson.

By scoring, Scotland extended the range of a display founded on implacable concentration. Neil Sullivan, the Wimbledon goalkeeper, kept his first clean sheet for his country, yet scarcely made a save of note. He was protected resourcefully by the superb Colin Hendry, who subjugated Oliver Bierhoff, and Tom Boyd, who has now appeared in 36 consecutive matches for Scotland. "Boyd was magnificent," Brown said of the Celtic centre back, "and he was our best player against the Czech Republic, in March, yet he

never gets a mention." Victory entitled the manager to plead for greater recogni-tion of his side. "International football," he said, "is a much higher level than the Champi-ons' League. Erich Ribbeck, the Germany coach, picked only three Bayern Munich players in his line-up. That means he must think he has eight players better than those at Bayern, even though that club is in the final of the Champions' League."

Brown was in no doubt of the prize that a win against Germany constituted and was fearful that he had put it in jeopardy. Given the importance of club matches at the weekend, he was obliged to keep his promise to other man-agers and replace key players, such as Hendry and Davidson, when wear and tear became apparent. Even selfless-ness has its limits, however, and Lambert was spared only the concluding six minutes.

All the same, a trace of patriotism and self-interest was en-

gives Brown the rare luxury of observing another nation's distress. Although Ulf Kirsten hit the bar, Germany engineered almost no clear openings and have not remedied the flaws that saw them lose 3-0 to the

United States earlier this year.
"The lack of creative players is our biggest problem," Gunter Netzer, a star of the Seventies, said, while Brown believes that they are suffering from the absence of a playmaker.

savour. Scots have all too few opportunities to pity the reign-

IN BRIEF! Nathan Blake, the Blackburn Rovers striker, has

Flitcroft. Billy McKinlay and Jeff Kenna as long-term casualties at the club. playmaker. That helped make them a poor side against us," Brown said. It was a sentence to M Kevin Campbell, the Everton striker, was

yesterday confirmed as the Carling player of the month for April. Campbell, who is on loan at Goodison Park until the end of the season from Trabzonspor, the Turkey club, has scored six goals in three FA Carling Premiership games to ease Everton's relegation fears. Lee Bowyer, the Leeds United midfield player, escaped a suspension yesierday after a disciplinary hearing at the Football

Association's headquarters in Lancaster Gate. Bowyer was fined just £750 after picking up II bookings so far this season.

Newcastle United have made a £3.9 million bid for Marcelino, the Real Mallorca central defender. according to reports in the Spanish press yesterday.

Uefa ruling could smooth Ireland's path

THE first 150 of the 1,000 refugees from Kosovo that the Irish Government has pledged to shelter will arrive in Dublin next month, by which time the Football Association of Ireland (FAI) should have a clearer idea of what effect the Balkans crisis will have on the country's qual-lfying campaign for the European championship.

Ireland are in group eight, along with Yugoslavia, Croatia, FYR Macedonia and Malta, and four of the scheduled fixtures have already been cancelled. Uefa, the game's European governing body, has set

up a task force to find a solution and it will report on May II, after which the FAI should have a clearer idea of where it stands. We have to try to understand

Uefa's position on this." Bernard O'Byrne, the FAI chief executive, said yesterday. "They have had a few games postponed, I think eight in all, so we have to be mindful that they are trying to run a whole competition and they've more to be thinking of than just Ireland.

"I think that the EU request for sporting organisations to cut their ties with Yugoslavia will be helpful

FROM RUSSELL KEMPSON IN DUBLIN

to Uefa in making their decision. It has to provide them with some "From the FAI's point of view, we

are not in the business of getting anyone thrown out of the competition, but we all want to know what is going to happen."

Ireland defeated Sweden, the lead-

ers of England's group, 2-0 at Lansdowne Road on Wednesday night and are due to engage in more meaningful encounters in Dublin.

against Yugoslavia and Macedonia, on June 5 and June 9. While O'Byrne wants the games to be played he cannot see the Yugoslavia

fixture going ahead.

He does not believe, either, that Yugoslavia will agree to play their remaining home matches at a neutral venue and can foresee their expulsion from the group, which would enhance Ireland's chances of reaching the finals, to be hosted jointly by The Netherlands and Belgium next year. Macedonia, for logistical reasons, may also be unable to fulfil their fixtures. "All the qualifying games should be played on the set dates," O'Byrne said. "If any other situation is at-tempted, I believe that the group could collapse. We are not interested in playing on dates that are not designated for internationals because it would create problems regarding the availability of our players. We are now at an endgame situation."

To the refugees from a ravaged Kosovo, Euro 2000 is an irrelevance, but it will continue nonetheless. Uefa, on or before May 11, must decide how to react to the repercussions of a human tragedy.

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The manager of the team scoring the most points in an individual GP will win a pair of four-day passes to the 1999 or 2000 British GP.

The fantasy results of Sunday's San Marino Grand Prix will be Silverstone published next Friday

HOW TO ENTER

Choose six drivers and six constructors, three from each of the four groups, left. Readers in the UK can enter by calling the 24-hour hotline on 0640 67 88 88 (Irish Republic +44 870 901 4206). Calls lest about seven minutes and must be made using a Touch-tone telephone. Follow the instructions and tap in your 12 two-digit selections in turn. The order in which you register your first three drivers will be your predictions for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd finishing places for the grands prix where bonus points apply. You will then be asked to give your Fantasy Formula One team name (max 16 characters), together with your details. You will receive a 10-digit PIN as confirmation of your entry. You can enter a team any time until noon on Thursday, May 13, 1999 to qualify for the start of the Monaco GP.

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GROUP D CONSTRUCTORS

0640 calls cost 60p per minute (standard tariffs apply to +44 870 calls).

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Women reap rich rewards

By JEN O'NELLL

IT HAS been quite a season for Sue Smith. The Tranmere Rovers and England forward was yesterday named the AXA FA Women's Premier Players' player of the year for the player of the year for the national division and the Nationwide international player of the year — all in a year in which the 19-year-old also represented a Fifa All-Star side against the United States. In fact, it has been quite a

season for women's football. The inaugural FA Women's Football Awards, sponsored by AXA, is just one of the many developments that have taken place over the season. Participation figures and league structures continue to grow, 20 female centres of excellence have been set up and attendances are on the

The gradual elevation in the profile of the sport has gained momentum with sponsorship and increasing media awareness. Sepp Blatter, the presi-dent of Fifa, the sport's world governing body, has often declared that "the future of football is female" and, if the

third World Cup, being held in the United States in June, is as successful as the early signs suggest, then not just the enthusiasts will recognise the name and face of Mia Hamm,

for example. More girls will have started playing football because of David Beckham or Michael Owen, but role models do exist within the women's game. Yet

the sport still relies on the dedi-

have jointly sponsored a special achievement award. The winner, voted by the readers of On the Ball. was Sylvia Gore. Having first kicked a ball when she was four, she joined Manchester

cation of people who have in-

vested much of their life into

football with little recognition.

It is because of this that The

Times and On the Ball, the

women's football magazine,



Since coaching Wales in the Eighties, Sylvia Gore has worked tirelessly to promote women's football in Britain

Corinthians at 14, scoring 50 goals in her first season. With them, she travelled the world, playing a game in front of 80,000 spectators in South America. The record books show that she scored the first official goal for an England women's side, in a 3-2 victory

After managing Wales from 1982 to 1989, a back injury forced Sylvia to give up work and playing. It did not end her devotion to the game: she now concentrates her energies on developing girls' and women's football on Merseyside.

over Scotland in 1972.

If Arsène Wenger's side fail to lift a trophy this season. Arsenal supporters can take heart in the success of the women's team, who have already won the League Cup and play Southampton Saints in the AXA FA Women's Cup final

on Monday at The Valley. ☐ Jen O'Neill is Editor of On

Troubled Barrow plan their escape

NON-LEAGUE FOOTBALL BY WALTER GAMMIE

A 3-0 WIN at Frickley Athletic on Tuesday night clinched Altrincham the last of the promotion places to the Nation-wide Conference. The victory guaranteed them second place in the UniBond League and, with Worksop Town, the only team able to overhaul them. not applying for promotion, the return of the founder members after an absence of two seasons was assured.

With Nuneaton Borough and Sutton United having secured their return to the Conference, the only issue to be settled is whether Welling United or Barrow will be relegated, They are level on points, with Welling having the better goal difference by three.

Welling travel to Cheltenham Town, who will complete their title celebrations by receiving the Conference trophy, and Barrow end their season away to Kidderminster Harriers, where Phil Mullen

steps down after five months as caretaker manager. Jan Molby takes over next season.

Barrow, who are in administration, have soldiered on thanks to the enthusiasm of their supporters - 2,176 turning out for the home match against Woking last Saturday. Their future remains uncer-tain. Should they stay up, it is by no means certain that a company trading as Barrow AFC 1999 Ltd will be accepta-

ble to the Conference.

There is a fight to the finish for promotion in the southern division of the Dr Martens League. Havant and Waterlooville clinched promotion and the title — when they beat Andover on Tuesday. Either Margate, away to Brackley Town, the bottom club, or Folkestone Invicta, who travel to Newport IoW, will go up with them. They start level on points, with Margate enjoying the superior goal difference.

Clubs fined after brawl at semi-final

By Our Sports Staff

have been fined by Uefa. the European governing body, for the brawl at the end of their Uefa Cup semi-final second leg match last week Uefa announced that Bolo-

would be fined SwFr99,000 (around £60,000) and three players would be suspended, while Marseilles would be fined SwFr125,000 with two players suspended.

Massimo Gonnella, a Uefa spokesman, said after a meet-ing in Geneva of Uefa's control and disciplinary body that a fine of SwFr5.000 would be imposed on Rolland Courbis, the Marseilles coach, and that his son, Stephane, a member of the French club's backroom staff, would be suspended from official functions at Uefa club matches for one

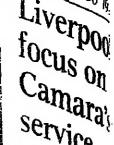
The violence broke out after Marseilles scored a late equalising goal to make the score

BOLOGNA and Marseilles i-l and ensure their place in

the final. The possibility of Poland being thrown out of the European championship receded yesterday when, bowing to demands by Fifa, the world governing body, the Polish Soccer Union agreed to hold a national congress to elect new management. The present-

leaders have been accused of mismanagement. The board of the union made the decision after receiving a letter from Fifa demanding that the election of the urion's board be carried out by the end of June. The federation had earlier defied Fifa

calls to set an election date.
The new election is seen as a solution to the conflict between Marian Dziurowicz the union president and Jacek Debski, the minister for sport Polish clubs also have demanded the president's



service

path

focus on $C_{amara'_{i}}$

Penaud leaves Saracens deflated

BY DAVID HANDS REGBY CORRESPONDENT

A SEASON in which Saracens have declined from Tedey's Bitter Cup holders Allied Dunbar Premiership runners-up to also-rans in both competi-tions received further when the club confirmed that Alain Penaud would return to France next month. The fly half has another two years of his contract to run, but he is going home for family

reasons. Penaud, 29, was signed last season from Brive as a replacement for Michael Lynagh, the Australian. who did so much to elevate the club. Penaud. however. has not been able to exercise the same generalship and his wife, Vanessa, has found it difficult to settle in

"I am disappointed, but I must listen to my wife and young son. Damon," Penaud, who has played 30 games for France, said. I am still determined to help Saracens qualify for Europe."
Toulouse would be inter-

ested in signing Penaud. as a back-up to Yann Delaigue, but his departure leaves Saracens eighth in the first division - casting round for a topquality fly half. There are very few of the requisite standard and most of those will be on World Cup duty for the first three months of next season.

The French Rugby Federation has agreed a new contract worth nearly £20 million with France TV, the terrestrial channel, that will run until 2002. This will be a further source of annoyance to the Rugby Football Union, castigated by the other home unions for their desire to negotiate their own television agreements. Meanwhile, Leicester,

who will win the Premiership if they beat Newcastle Falcons on Sunday, may have problems filling the No 10 jersey if injuries to Pat Howard and Geordan Murphy do not heal.

RUGBY UNION

Rotherham aim for rarefied air on a shoestring

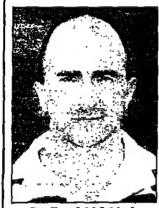
MONEY talks, doesn't it? Well, yes and no. There cannot be a game this weekend in the Allied Dunbar Premiership that illustrates quite so graph cally the financial disparity in professional rugby union as that between Worcester and

Worcester, backed by the lar-gesse of Cecil Duckworth, have facilities which are so good that New Zealand will base themselves there before the World Cup. Rotherham, homely and homespun, were so economically stretched earlier in the season that they went into administration. Their ground, owned by the local authority, is shared with a cricket team and has one tiny stand. For years, Rotherham were looked down on by dismissive neighbours such as

Sheffield.

Until last week Rotherham and Worcester were vying for promotion from the second division, but the latter's defeat away to Coventry ended their chances. Yet Rotherham have motored on, building on success away to Bristol to put together a run of 15 straight wins that leaves them on the brink of elevation to the promised land of the first division. By any standard, theirs is a heartwarming story.
No one individual epitomis-

es what the club is about, and its place at the heart of the community, more than John Dudley, who has served it as man and boy. The lock for-ward joined 16 years ago and



Dudley: faithful lock

Mark Souster finds a homely

Yorkshire club preparing for a tilt at the giants

now, at the age of 32, belatedly finds himself a professional player able to contemplate a tilt at the big time.

He has to pinch himself to make sure that it is not a dream, for he well remembers starting his playing career on a parks pitch and combining rugby with a multitude of jobs, including nightclub bouncer and steelworker.
"My attitude has had to

change, you have to look after yourself," he said. "Every game has been a big game recently, everyone has wanted to knock us off our perch. Everybody has looked at us as upstarts, asking how a small town like Rotherham can do so well. It just goes to show that money doesn't buy you loyalty. It won't buy you commitment. They come from being together, playing together, and doing everything for one another."

The club's success has put a smile on the faces of local people, and these smiles will stretch to a broad beam if, against all the odds, Rotherham make it. They stand level on points with Bristol with two



Schmid: dub captain

matches remaining, and their points differential is only slightly inferior.

If they beat Worcester and then Moseley, and Bristol slip up at all, then Rotherham's fairytale will be complete. It will be the eighth occasion in 12 heady seasons that they have achieved promotion during a journey that began in 1988 in the nether reaches of North East I. They would prefer to go up as champions rather than have to endure the play-offs, as they did last year when losing over two legs to London Irish.

The turnaround this season has been remarkable after an indifferent start. The support of local creditors and careful husbandry has enabled the club to overcome its financial difficulties while the players shook off any feelings of inferi-ority and started to believe in themselves.

Promotion carries with it a health warning, as Steve Cousins, the rugby manager, freely admitted. "It's an exciting prospect but also slightly terrify-ing," he said. What they don't want to do is to ape West Hartlepool and yo-yo between the divisions.

Going up might mean hav-ing to leave their Clifton Lane sports ground to share with Rotherham United down the road at Millmoor. The prospect of the formation of a Yorkshire super club, involving a merger between themselves, Leeds Tykes and Wakefield, has also been mooted. "We don't want to think about it until after the last game, if we have to," Cousins said. Although Yorkshire grit

runs through the core of the side, it has successfully integrated some overseas players, among them Mike Umaga, Greg Austin and Mike Schmid, the Canada international, who joined two years ago and is now captain. Dudley, asked if he felt envi-

ous of Worcester's material riches, replied: "No. I am sure they're envious of us. We're assured of the play-offs at least and they're not. So how can we



Finch steels himself for momentous finale

SHOULD Chris Finch stride out at Wembley tomorrow feeling sated by the success that has come to him in his first two seasons in charge of Sheffield Sharks, then he would have the perfect excuse. At 29, an age when most sportsmen have yet to reach their peak as players. Finch has come dangerously close to achieving

all that he can as a coach. His impact has been such that when he was named Budweiser coach of the year this week, it was one of the formalities of the season, one matched only by Terrell Myers, the Sharks playmaker, collecting the players' award. Had anybody else been honoured, it would have been a travesty.

With considerable help from a few others. Finch and Mivers have made the Sharks the team of the year, whatever happens at Wembley in the Budweiser championship play-off finals. Winners of the double already, they are seeking to round off a momentous season by completBASKETBALL

By Nicholas Harling

ing the treble, a feat managed only once before, in 1996 by London Towers under Kevin Cadle, a coach vastly more experienced than the young Pennsylvanian.

"Don't get me wrong," Finch said, "I still love play-ing. Ideally, I would have played for another year or two, but I find the challenge of coaching is much greater than the satisfaction of playing." His chance came two sum-

mers ago, when Jim Brandon left for Manchester Giants. recommending Finch as his successor. "I was very thankful for Jim," Finch said. "even though, at 27, I stopped playing just as I was entering my prime. My numbers Istatistics had only gone down in my final year because the number of foreigners went

His first season in charge brought modest success, a triumph in the Uni-Ball Trophy final over London Towers, the same club albeit much changed - that the Sharks face in the first semi-final tomorrow. Dispensing with John Amaechi and Mark Robinson, Finch brought in Matt Gaudio and Travis Conlan, promoted Wil Johnson and found the perfect blend until Gaudio ruptured his anterior cruciate knee ligament after only a third of the season. Peter Scantlebury, the veteran England captain, who

surprising success.

"Everything happens for a reason. I knew that Pete could guard people like John McCord (of Thames Valley Tigers) and Tony Dorsey (of Manchester Giants)." Finch said, naming, coincidentally, a player from each of the other player from each of the other semi-finalists, either of whom could face his Sharks in the

was out of favour at Newcastle

Eagles, was recruited, with

SPORT IN BRIEF **Davis Cup**

returns to indoor arena

TENNIS: The National Indoor Arena (NIA) in Birmingham has been selected as the venue for Great Britain's Davis Cup world group play-off against South Africa. The Lawn Tennis Association chose the NIA where, despite defeat in United States over the Easter weekend, the three-day event sold out. The capacity has been set at 8,000 and tickets for the tie will go on sale on May 6.

ATHLETICS: Catherina McKiernan, who was unable to defend her Flora London Marathon title earlier this month because of injury, has turned her sights towards the Chicago Marathon on October 24 (David Powell writes). McKiernan, from Ireland, is unbeaten in three marathons, with a best of 2hr 22min 23sec, and she appears to be planning to challenge the world record of 2hr 20min 47sec, held by Tegla Loroupe, of Kenya, on what is a fast course.

RUGBY UNION: The South African Rugby Football Union is negotiating with Nick Mallett, the South Africa coach, to extend his contract when it expires after the World Cup. Mallett became the most successful Springboks coach in 1998 when he took the team to 17 consecutive wins.

RUGBY LEAGUE: Plans were unveiled yesterday to turn Odsal, home of the Bradford Bulls, into a smaller version of the Stadium of Light in Sunderland. Sterling Capitol has been given the go-ahead by Bradford Council to spend £80 million on turning Odsal into a sports and leisure complex that incorporates a 30,000-capacity stadium. ICE HOCKEY: Ivan

Matulik, the inspirational Cardiff Devils captain, signed a new three-year contract with the club yesterday. The deal will keep Matulik, who scored both goals in his side's 2-1 Sekonda Superleague play-off win over Nottingham Panthers in April, with the Devils until

rich rewards Taking the mike from our game

. -Television can, on occasions, be uncom-1000 1000 fortably intrusive. In its desire to be as informative as possible in its coverage, the medium can trespass into private grief or. less seriously, but still worthy of attention, it may invade or impair our view of sport. In appealing to our voyeuristic tendencies and wishing to expose the skull beneath the skin, rugby may be in danger of exposing too much.

Sports commentators can and, regrettably, do take sides. unaware or impervious to the fact that viewers may not all see eye-to-eye with his persuasion or prejudice. In this way the commentator risks alienating at least a part of his audience. While the commentator may be moved to betray his emotions by the sway of exciting events, he has to remain dispassionate in his view of the contestants themselves.

The viewer must warm to the commentator. He is, after all, a guest in our living room. We need to feel comfortable in his presence. But it is not just

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Minnesota 4 Boston 9 Cholopo White Sox 10 Tampe Bay 7 (first game). Cholopo White Sox 9 Tampa Bey 1 (second game). Kansas Cuy 8 Baltimore 2: 1948 8 New York, Yankees 6, Anaherim 12 Toronto 10; Oakland 1 Cleveland 4, Seattle 8 Detrog 6

Toronto 10: Oakland 1 Clevelend 4. Searue 8 Desrui 6 8 Nestui 6 8 Nestui 6: Republic Florida 1 Chicago Cubs 6. Meraukse 2 Los Angeles 3. Mon-treal 3 San Francesco 4 Phusdelpha 8 Conomed 12, New York, Mets 4 San Olego 3. Alianta 5 Phisburgh 4, Houston 6 Anzona 10. St Louis 7 Colorado 9

BASKETBALL

ATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Anan-t 76 New York 73, Detrod 101 New Jersev 3, Orlando 93 Washington 86, Minnesona 7 Pricens 82, Mikhaukkee 115 Toronio 102, brilland 119 Sportin 93

FOOTBALL

INTERNATIONAL, MATCHES: Slovenia 1 Finland 1, Poland 2 Czach Republic 1, Den-mark 1 South Africa 1, Romania 1 Belgium 0, Greece 1 Switzerland 1. The Netherlands 1 Morocca 2: Mehr 1 Instand 2.

1 Morocco 2: Malta 1 Icaland 2 EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Occality

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Ouaditying group two: Georgia 1 Norway 4 Lativa
o Albanta O Qualifying group six Austria
7 San Marrio 0
EUROPEAN UNIDER-21 CHAMPIONSHIP: Qualifying group two: Lativa 0
Albanta 0. Georgia 0 Norway 3 Qualifying
group six. The Netretands 1 Austria 0
Qualifying group nine: Belgum 4 Bosnia 0
MATIONNIDE COMPERIENCE: Forest
Green 0 Dover 1, Kingstonian 0 Southport 2.
UNIDONO LEAGUE: First division: Foreicy Cellic 1 Whidey Bay 2
DR MARTIENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Salisbury 2 Gressoy 2: Rightwell
Worcester 2 Michael deliveloris Softwill Borough 3 Weston-apper-Marre 0 Southern
division: Wilney 0 Yale 0

Wednesday's late results

Gerald Davies says that wiring referees

for sound is no help to players or viewers

FOR THE RECORD

one commentator any more, because for some time the practice has stretched to include a sidekick. And, no sooner than that has become the accepted style, there is suddenly, in rugby, a third . . . the referee. Electronically-linked, the ref-

eree's comments are heard directly by the viewer. This does not happen in any other sport, so why should it be in rugby? Indeed, in South Africa the referee's comments are heard by the crowd over the loudspeaker system at the stadium. Rugby is clearly a complicat-

RYMAN LEAGUE: First division: Maiden-haad 0 Carwey Island 2, Rominard 0 Molesey.

0. Woaldstone 2 Herchan 1 Third division: Epsom and Ewell 0 Wingalle and Finchley 2 BANKS'S RHEWRRY LEAGUE: Premier division: Bustletoner 1 Etrugshal 0, Wol-verhampton 1 Stationd 7

division: Bustlehome 1 Etangshall 0, Woverhampton 1 Stallford 7
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION:
First division: Bathet 0 Chelses 1, Brentord 0 Furham 3, Cambridge 2 West Ham 1
pswich 4 Watroid 1, Brighton 0 Reading 1
PONTIN'S LEAGUE: Premiler division:
Lecester 0 Birmingham 0: Manchester Und
4 Leeds 1 Norm Forest 1 Blackboot of Preson 1 Liverpool 0, Aston Vala 3 Everton 0
First division: Middlesbrough 4 Coverny
Second division: Blackboot 0 Shrewsbury 2 Bractiond 0 Wercham 1. Huddlerfield Und 2.
Notts County 1 Rotherham 1 Scarborough
1 Stockport 0 Third division: Bury 1 Danington 2 Chester 2 Chesterfield 1, Halifak 1
Hariflepool 1 Sourihorpe 2 Walself 1 Wigan
1 Huff 1
OTHER MATCH: Bercelona 2 Brazil 11 2.

OTHER MATCH: Barcelona 2 Brazil >1 2

TURIN: Flat and File Italian Open: Leading first-round scores (Great Briain and Ireland unless stated) file: M Lanner Iswel 65: P Nuran (Swel, G Evans 66: D Cooper, R Claydon 67: S Gallache: P Spirand (Swel, P Michael F.Ce (Spi 68: M A Jimener (Spi 67: unrer (N2), F Valera (Spi), J san de Velde (Fi), P Harmgion, D Carer 68: M Mchildy (Zm), J Berendt (Arg) M Anglen (Swel, E Romero (Arg), A Codart, R Goosen (SA), J Moseley (Aus., A Sobrino (Por), R Oaws (Aus.), S Hansen (Den), P Broadhurs!

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Stanley Cup play-offs: Eastern Conference: Boston 4 Carolina 1 (bes-bol-seven senes Ned 2-2). Philadelphia 5 Toronto 2 (senes sed 2-2). Western Conference: Colorado 2 Sen Jose 4 (Colorado lead senes 2-1)

ed affair. So much so that it is universally accepted these days that referees are expected "to manage the game". Is this in some way an admission of defeat by the lawmakers? Surely the job of the referee is not to supervise the running of a game according to the way he wishes, as if he is conducting a training session; nor to carry on a running commentary

advising the two teams on the rights and wrongs of the manner of their play. Rather it is his task to officiate objectively and dispassionately.

The idea that the game

needs to be "managed" is a curious phenomenon for an activity to determine which is the better of two teams. This is a disturbing trend. Two weeks ago, Llanelli played Cardiff in the semi-final of the SWALEC Cup. The referee was so connected that the television viewer could hear every word that he untered during the match. On this occasion the

referee did not stop shouting his commands. "Release the hall" . . . "Take your hands off it" ... "Get back in the threequarters" ... "Play on, play on". It was as if he were conducting a somewhat vociferous seminar with ill-educat-

ed students. Not only was this obtrusive but also faintly ridiculous that

ROWING

VINGRIELD SCULLS; 1, G Searle (Mole ey) 2 Iman 566ec; 2, 7 Gate (Tideway Scull rs), 22-05, 3, G. Monnerkenstern (Molt

RUGBY LEAGUE

NORTHERN FORD PREMIERSHIP: Rock daie 18 York 10

RUGBY UNION

WELSH LEAGUE: Premier division play-offs: Group A: Neath 43 Ebbw Vale 38, Ponsyndd 12 Lanell 42, Group B: Abe-avon 26 findgend 68, Newport 16 Captibil-ly 35 First division: UWIC 29 Tordu 17.

SAILING

CLIPPER ROUND-THE-WORLD RACE-Leg 4b (Stroppore to Seychelies; with maiss to fires; 1, 1, Memmans (S Solars) 1,871, 2, An-el IA Thomson) 1,877, 3, Serica (R Dean) 1,879, 4, Antope (Ik Hams) 1,887; 5, Theo-mopulae (MTOd) 1,986; 6, Orysolius (T Hedg-es) 1,899, 7, Taeping (N Heming) 1,928

SNOOKER

THE CRUCRIE. Sheffield: Enhans, world charaptonehip: Quarter-finals: J Hig grs. (Scrot) bit S Lee (Engl. 13-6; S Hand). Scrot) bit M Sevene (Wales) 13-5. Semi-final: M Wilerins (Wales) leads Higgers 5-3

SQUASH

LBIZ, Austria: European Item champion-big: Qualifying round: Mest: Pool A: Scot-land 4 France 0 Finton 3 Suctestant 1. Scotland 4 Fintand 0 IP Nicol bit J Faumoin 9-3, 3-9, 3-9-0. M Health of J Nytamen 9-10, 9-0, 9-5, 9-2, J White b: O Tuomnen

a sport with pretensions to professionalism and global expansion should be conducted in this way. Implicit perhaps in this behaviour is a quiet admission that rugby is so difficult to play that players need to be advised what they can and cannot do. He is manufacturing excitement; television allowing us to hear more than we need and, under pressure, the expletives, too.

indeed, might not a referee, in giving his commands, become an unwitting collaborator in being heard to be favouring one team more than the other; advising one side to release the ball, for instance, and giving a player time to do so, while instantly penalising another for not doing so?

Does television need to be intrusive in this way? Hearing all this, might not the referee be thought of as a nuisance to the armchair viewer? Might he not also be thought of as moving away from the fair and authoritative arbiter of the laws that he is meant to be? Does television need to expose him in this way?

(France with 7-6 on games count-back), Pool B: England 4 Sweden 0: Wales 3 Germany 1 Pool C: Greece 2 Israel 2 (Greece with 9-7 on games count-back). The Natherbords 3 Gerece 1 Pool D: Austria 1 Natherbords 3 Greece 1 Pool D: Austria 4 Portugel 2, Austria 3 Ireland 1 (Wallishuser lost to D Ryan 149, 49, 49, G Schiedbauer by Frotor 9-5, 9-4, 9-0; D Huck-Sabitar to 1 C Colars 9-3, 29, 29, 3-9, 41, 1 Carsia by 1 Rhoney 9-6, 9-4, 29, 0-9, 9-2, Pool B: Beiguum 4 Casch Republic 1 billy 4 Bulgare 0, Beigum 2 Bay 2 (Beigum with 8-8 on games count-back), Casch Republic 4 Bulgare 0, Beigum 2 Bay 2 (Beigum with 8-8 on games count-back), Casch Republic 3 Beiglam 0 (C Jackmen Pool A: England 3 Beiglam 0 (C Jackmen Pool A: England 3 Beiglam 0 (C Jackmen Pool A: England 3 Beiglam 0 (C Jackmen Pool A: Boston 9-0, 9-0; Sweden 9 P Nimmo to 1 Alexed 9-2, 9-3, 3-9, 3-3; C Waddel bt C Otson 9-0, 9-0; Sweden 9 P Nimmo to 1 Alexed 9-2, 9-1, 9-0; Pool D: Freind 3 Beiglam 0 (A Blake II & A Sterchalle rollen 9-5, 9-1, 0-0; Pool D: Freind 3 Beiglam 0 (A Blake II A Sterchalle rollen 9-5, 9-1, 0-0; Pool D: Freind 3 Beiglam 0 (A Blake II A Sterchalle rollen 9-5, 9-1, 0-0; Pool D: Freind 3 Beiglam 0 (B Boston II A Martin 1 A Sterchalle rollen 9-5, 9-1, 0-0; Pool D: Freind 3 Beiglam 0 (B Boston II A Martin 1 A Sterchalle rollen 9-5, 9-1, 0-0; Pool D: Freind 3 Beiglam 0 (B Boston II A Martin 1 A Sterchalle rollen 9-5, 9-1, 0-0; Pool D: Freind 3 Beiglam 0 (B Boston II A Martin 1 A Sterchalle rollen 9-5, 9-1, 0-1)

TENNIS

ATLANTA: AT&T Challenge: First round: M Mrny! (Beta) to V Spackes (US 7:5.8-3. G Blanco (Sc)) to M Norman (Swe) 6-4.7-6. J Grmelsto: (US) to J M Garnbal (US) 6-0.6-4 Second round: A Mantin (Sp) to G Canas (Art) 7-6.7-6. S Koubek (Austra) to M Chang (US) 6-1.6-4. MUNICH: Baverien Mastere; Second round: L Burcsmiler (Geri to) O Gross

MUNICH: Baverien (Ger) b O Gross (Ger) 6-1, 6-4. MUNICH: Baverien (Ger) b O Gross (Ger) 6-1, 6-3, M Zabaleta (Arg) b C Vinck (Ger) 6-1, 6-4, F Squitan (Arg) b T Hass (Ger) 6-4, 6-4, F Squitan (Arg) b T Hass (Ger) 6-2, 8-7, 6-1, M Kohimann (Ger) bit W Fernara (SA) 6-7, 6-4, 7-5. HABBURG GRAND PROC. Finat round: A-C Sciol (Fr) bit Spetca (Rom) 6-7, 6-2, 7-6, S Ferna (II) bit E Dementiens (Russ) 6-3, 6-1, C Laori Cartel (Sp) bit J Negody (Can) 6-2, 7-5, S Scheet (Austral) bit D Tragomir (Rom) 3-6, 6-2, 7-6, S Second round: A Sanchez Wicario (Sp) bit M A Sénichez-Lorenzo (Sp) 6-3, 6-0, C Mentinez (Sp) bit A Glass (Ger) 4-6, 7-5, 6-1, Strein bit N Tauzal (Fr) 3-4, 6-4, 6-0, M Pierce (Fr) bit Sciot 6-2, 5-7, 7-5, Fanna bit D van Roost (Bel) 2-8, 7-5, 7-6.

By ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

Begin Bridge with The Times: Lesson 54 -Play with Touching Honours

In Lesson 52 I said that when you were on lead with two (or more) touching honours you should lead the top of the sequence. There is a good reason for this. Consider the following lay-out (against a suit contract):

Q led

Suppose that your style was to lead honours randomly; sometimes you led the queen from queen-jack and sometimes from king-queen. Would you like your partner to play the ace at trick one and find that the lay-out was:

A832

A832

J 10 9 Or should he play small and find the suit distributed:

QJ 109

765

Defence is harder than declarer play because the defending side can see only half of its side's assets. To defend accurately you need to be able to build up a clear picture of the whole hand and you can only do so if your partner gives you help-

ful information. Now look at the situation from the other side of the table:

Do you play the queen or the jack to the first trick? The answer is to play the jack, the lower of touching honours. Suppose the lay-out is:

> 985 K 1042 QJ6 A73

When declarer wins your jack with his ace, your partner will know that you hold the queen, for if declarer held the ace and queen he would have won with the queen. If you were to play the queen, partner would not know who had the jack.

This is not to be confused with the opening lead where you lead the top of touching honours. If you are the first player in your partnership to play to a trick you play the top of touching honours; if your partner has already played to the trick you play the lowest.

You can get any lessons you have missed from this beginners' course by sending two 26p stamps per lesson (or five stamps per set of five) to Sally Brock, 73 Totteridge Lane, High Wycombe HPI3 7QA. Don't forget to state which ones you want.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

PRECES

a. What went before b. Petitions

c. Prefects at Mill Hill ROGER DE COVERLEY

a. A Walter Mitty

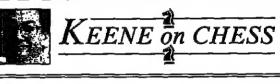
b. Transparent excuses

PRAIRIAL.

b. A scab

a. Rustic b. A month c. A pick-me-up ROTULA a. A merry-go-round

> c. The kneecap . Answers on page 58



CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Crushing victories

One of the stars of the Hampstead grandmaster section was Irina Krush, 15, from New York who finished with a respectable score and annihilated various strong male opponents. Here are two samples of her energetic style. White: Irina Krush

Hampstead 1999

12 13

14 15

34 35 36

Nimzo-Indian Defence 1 d4 Qc2 dxc5 a3 Bxc5 Nf3 Bf4 h6 Nh5 Nc6 Nf6 hxg5 Nd4 Snd4 Qa5 Ne8 g4 g5 Brg5 Nxd4 Rg1 Bb2 Qh5 f5 d6 Qf7 8e5 Bg2 Bf4 Bf3 Nb5 Bxe5 e4 Nc3 Qe2 exf5 Bxc6 Bc6 Nf6 exf5 bxc6 e4 Qe6 Ng4 Rf7 Qe7 0-0-0 Rg5 Qe3 Qg3 c5 g6 Rh7 Kxh7 Ne5 Re8 Og7 Rb8 Rb7 Qf6 Kg8

BY RAYMOND KEENE

Hampstead 1999 c4 Nc3 e3 Nf3

Black: Alexei Barsov

12 13 14 44 Rc3+ 45 Rc8 46 Rxb8 46 Rxb8 47 Rc8 48 Rc5

43 Qh7+ 44 Rd6 Kxe6 White: Irina Krush Black: Jonny Hector

Semi-Slav Defence o6 Nf6 e6 Nbd7 Qc2 Be2 cxd5 Nb5 846 due5 Bd2 Bb4 Ba3 10 11

e5 crd55 Bb8 E5 Ne4 Ne6 6 4 R55 Bb8 Bb6 4 R55 Bb6 4 R58 Bb6 4 R58 Bb6 4 R58 Bb6 4 R58 Bb6 8 Bb6 Nbd4 15 Kf1 16 Rd1 17 Qb3 16 Rd1 17 Qb3 18 Bxb4 19 Nc2 20 Qxb7 21 Ncd 22 Qxa 23 Axd 25 b4 26 Qxz 27 Rb5 28 g3 21 Ned4
22 Qra6
23 a3
24 Ned2
25 b4
26 Qra4
27 Rb1
28 g3
29 Kg2
30 b5
31 Rhc1
32 b6
33 exd4
34 Red3
35 Re6 35 Rc6 36 Rf6 37 g4 38 h4 39 g5 40 hxg5 41 Ba6 42 b7 43 Rf3 Rc6 R/6 g4 h4 hig5 Bd7 Be6 Kd6 Kc7 Kb6 Kxa6

> Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

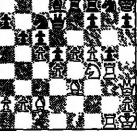
Ka7 Kub7

WINNING MOVE

White to play. This position is from the game Kobalija --Nalbandian, Moscow 1999. Can you spot White's brilliant finish which ensured that the game will be published all around the world?

By Raymond Keene

Solution on page 58





Williams revels in bid to beat the odds

By PHIL YATES

KEVIN BOND, a factory worker from Llanelli, watched the first session of the Embassy world championship semi-finals on television yesterday with more than just a passing patriotic interest in the fortunes of Mark Williams.

Nine years ago, when Williams was a starry-eyed 14-year-old amateur, Bond was astonished by his potting skills. After their paths crossed in a club in South Wales, Bond immediately sought out his bookmaker and placed a £140 bet, at odds of 300-1, on Williams to capture the world title by 2000.

As Williams established a 5-3 lead over John Higgins. Bond's speculative wager looked to be the stuff of inspira-



Williams: impressive

champion, played well, but the Welshman cranked up his game a notch or two higher.

Williams beat Stephen Hendry 10-9 on a re-spotted black in the final of the Benson and Hedges Masters last year, but this season has been his most fruitful, with triumphs in the Welsh Open, Irish Open and Thailand Masters.

He has beaten Ian McCulloch, Nick Walker and Ken Doherty to reach the semi-finals of the world championship for a second year in succession and the confidence inevitably generated by his recent form was very much in evidence against Higgins.

Trailing 45-0 in the first frame, Higgins fashioned a 72 earance, even inough the balls were uninvitingly spread, but, with a 2-0 lead beckoning, he missed a routine black off its spot and thereby committed one of the few unforced errors of a high-quality afternoon's play.

Williams cleared to blue and, after chipping in the initial red from distance, constructed a break of 104 to lead 2-1. By now it was clear that Higgins was encountering much sterner opposition than in his previous two matches, when he emerged from the first session 8-0

The fourth frame, the only scrappy affair of the day, fell to Higgins before the following two were shared, with runs of 101 from Williams and 126 from Higgins. Williams, the world No 5 and very much an underdog, accounted for the next two frames with contributions of 66 and 92 to ensure overnight supremacy.

The semi-finals, over the best of 33 frames and four sessions, provide the ideal conditions for fluctuating momenturn and Higgins knows that while Williams has got the better of their first skirmish, he remains a long way short of achieving overall success. The Scot will also be heartened by his one-sided head-to-head record against Williams - he has lost only two of their ten meetings — but, nevertheless, he will appreciate that the gauntlet has been thrown

"I feel like I am going to beat John," Williams, who is not known as a boastful sort, said on Wednesday. "I've been waiting to play him all season. I couldn't be happier with my form and I don't feel under any pressure out there."

The other semi-final, between Hendry and Ronnie O'Sullivan, promised an equally high level of entertainment and its course is just as difficult to foresee, pitching, as it does. Hendry, level-headed and consistent, against O'Sullivan, wildly inconsistent, but, on occasions, unstoppable.

John Parrott described the composition of the semi-finals this year as "collectively the finest ever" and it is hard to disagree. If Hendry is to fulfil his burning ambition to win his seventh championship, a record for the modern era, it will be perhaps his greatest

LINKS ... - official to imament site TELEVISION: BBC2, 1.10, 6.50.



Driving onwards: Sam Torrance on his way to a first-round 70 in Turin yesterday

Lanner's record 62 leaves his rivals in the shade

MATS LANNER went hunt-ing for ornithological wildlife yesterday and ended up bagging such a haul that he had to carry it home in a truck. His first act was to pluck a protected species out of the sky and he then contented himself with the tail feathers of nine more smaller, but equally valuable, specimens; the result was bloodless mayhem in the Italian countryside.

Lanner, 38, is one of a few Swedish golfers who could claim to have achieved veteran status - this is his eighteenth year on the European Tour and he used every last milligram of his experience as he assembled a remarkable course-record round of 62 that gave him a three-stroke lead after the first round of the Fiat and Fila Italian Open at Circol-

There is not much that is new to Lanner after all those long years of trudging the tournament treadmill, but this was -- never belore has he beaten par by ten strokes in 18 When I'm hot, I'm holes. hot," he said. Hot? He left scorch marks on the greens.

Life has been good to Swedish golfers these past few days. Jesper Parnevik won the BOLE From Mel Webb in Turin

Greater Greensboro Classic on Sunday, a few hours after Jarmo Sandelin had taken the Spanish Open title. Now here was Lanner and, just to emphasise the point, Per Nyman, his compatriot, shared second place with Gary Evans on 65. Derrick Cooper and Russell Claydon did their bit for Queen, country and bank balance

with matching rounds of 66. Lanner, who lost his playing privileges after dreadful years in 1996 and 1997, won his spurs again by winning the Madeira Island Open last year. "It was awful," he said. I made up my mind that if 1998 was anything like the previous two years. I would give up tournament golf." That would have been prema ture - there's life in the gammai hund yet.

His round was full of good things, but it was borne to a higher plane by his putting. He needed only 23 of them. and his first was one from 15ft

for an eagle on the 1st. He had birdies at the 2nd, 3rd and 6th, all with 20ft efforts, rolled home a ten-footer on the 7th and, after all that had gone before, the 3ft birdie putt on the 9th was little more than a

There were more on three successive holes from the 12th and although he had a bogey after a ham-fisted bunker shot on the 16th, he pulled the shot back on the next hole. It was breathless, heady stuff, especially for a man who had missed six cuts out of eight appearances this season.

And finally, a small tale about Claydon. The roly-poly Cambridge man, a rabid Tottenham Hotspur supporter, was asked if he ever visited the Tour's mobile physiotherapy unit, which contains a fitness suite. "Yes, I did go in there once," he said, "It was good. I saw Spurs beat Southampton 5-3 on their telly." Who says there are no



WEBSITE: www.guropeantour.com news and scores

TELEVISION: Sky Sports 1, 1.00, 7.30pm

SQUASH

European title beckons Scotland

SCOTLAND'S men defeated Finland 40 in the final qualifying round of the European team championships yesterday to finish top of pool A in Linz, Austria (Colin McQuillan writes). It is doubtful if a more disparate squad of players ever entered a regional semi-final under a common

Peter Nicol, the world No 1, British Open champion and Commonwealth gold medalwinner, of Invertire, and Martin Heath, of Edinburgh were joined by John White, who learnt his squash in Queens-land, Australia, and Neil Frankland, a tough little South Londoner, in the victory. The Scots last took the title in 1992, when Nicol was just the boy of a home-bred squad now scattered to the winds.

Answers from page 57

ROGER DE COVERLEY

PRECES

PRAIRIAL

means a meadow. ROTULA

Latin rota, a wheel.

FIXTURES FOOTBALL Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

Nationwide League Botton v Wolverhampton (7.45)

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Bouthero divi-sion: Corby v Andover. Mildland division: Softuli Borough v Sulton Coldfield. POOTBALL LEAGUE YOUTH ALLI-ANCE: First division: Chester v Blackpool (120). SCREWFX DRECT LEAGUE: Premier divisions Odd Down v Chippenham; Yeovi

FAUNTON: Somerset v Yorkshire

CHESTER-LE-STREET: Durham v

Hampshire
CHELMSFORD: Essex v Warwickshire
CARDIFF: Glamorgan v Sussex
BRISTOL: Gloucestershire v Mcdlesex
CANTERBURY: Kant v Derbyshire
LECESTER: Leicestershire v

Lancastrire NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v

Surrey TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghemshire v

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP: Final day of three: Hove: Susser v Gloucestershire Knowle and Dourldge: Wardeshire v Northinghamshire. Wordeshire Vordeshire in Vorte; Vorteshire v Somensel. Final day of four: Southerspion: Hampshire v Kerl.

WORD-WATCHING

(b) In liturgical worship, the short petitions which are said as

verse and response by the minister and the congregation

(c) An English country dance (and tune). Also used with the

prefix Sir, and abbreviated as Sir Roger. Women and men in lines opposite each other. Partners at top of the line birl in the middle right-handed, then the woman goes down the line of men

twirling left-handed, then partner in middle right-handed. Man

twirls up line of women. Man and woman then birl simultane-

(b) The name for the ninth month of the French revolutionary cal-

endar, extending from May 20 to June 18. In French prairie

(c) The kneecap or patella. "Little wheel", the diminutive of the

SOLUTION TO WINNING MOVE

1 Qxh7+! Kxh7 2 f6+ Kh6 (2 ... Kh8 3 Rxg5 and mates) 3 Rh4+! gxh4 4 Ne6+ Kh5 5 Bdl checkmate.

ously, twirling off each other in the middle. It is easy.

alternately. In Latin the word means prayers.

1.0, third day of four, 104 overs minimum

THY BESTOP SUITOR.
MEMERYA SPARTAN SOUTH MID-LANDS LEAGUE Prevaler division: Tod-chigdon v Besconsiled Sycob INTERLINK EXPRESS ALLIANCE Kings CRICKET . PPP county championship

Century under Frans Bruggen
7.30 Performance on 3 James MacMillan conducts
the BBC Philharmonic, with John Bradbury,
clarinet, and Adrian Spillet, percussion. MacMillan

5.30am World News 5.35 Shipping Forecast 5.40 Inshore Forecast

5.40 Instruct Forecass: 5.45 Prayer for the Day With Pastor Lindsay Allen 5.47 Farming Today Anna Hill presents rural reports 6.00 Today With John Humphrys and Alan Little.

6.00 Today With John Humphrys and Alan Little. Including Thought for the Day
8.35 (LW) Yesterday in Parliament
9.00 Desert Island Dises Jazz musician Stan Tracey chooses eight fevourite records (r)
9.45 (FM) Sertai: Nathenlei's Nationeg Ben Onwukwe reads the final extract from Giles Milton's book

1.00 The World at One With Nick Clarke
1.30 Feedback Presented by Roger Bolton
2.00 The Archers (r)
2.15 Afternoon Play: The Secret of Fire See Choice
3.00 Medicing History With Suc Cook
3.30 Naming the Universe Healther Couper investigates who will name the latest discoveries in the galaxy. Last in series (5/5)
3.45 This Sceptred Isle The Battle of the Boyne. Part 85 of the history of Britain, namated by Anna Messey. (r)

Massey. (r)
4.00 Open Book Light-hearted took at how office life is depleted in fiction. Phillippa Gregory presents (r)
4.30 The Message Alex Brodie and his guests discuss current media trends
5.00 PM With Chris Lowe and Eddie Mair
6.00 Stx O'Clock News



Six "Hollywood Wannabes" are Desperately Seeking Stardom (ITV, 10mm)

Daniel, Deanna, Leo and Robbyn. If you think Friends crossed with Fame, plus a dash of docusoap indiscretion, you will have the flavour. Glossy, with longer soundbites than previous (shorter) September Films' productions.

ITV, 10.30pm

Recent controversy about loveable hand-pupper Sooty sniffing dangerous substances nowith standing, this is about as adult as ventriloquism gets. For much of the time David Strassman and his puppers, Chuck Wood and Ted E Bare commendably avoid the absolute crassness and blue humour of the British "adult" ventriloquists, but it has to be said that the language is ripe. The American's guests on this first show, of a series of six are Jilly Gooklen and John McCririck, who are both sent up willingly, presumably recognising the value of such exposure. Strassman's routine with Ted E. Bare, regarding missing chocolates, is so funny and so clean that I could wish it were in a separate, pre-watershed show. Daniel Rosen provides music, Mad Max personal styling and additional laughs. All in all, this is a very promising series.

Tony Patrick

To computer illiterates such as myself, the infinite

variety of uses to which the Internet can be put is beyond comprehension. The same goes, though to a lesser extent, for the mysteries of the correction of faults in the supply of domestic gas. Steve Hen-nessy's sombre drama about a mother (Valerie Lit-

ley), a daughter (Rachel Smith) and a young man

from the gas board (Andy Wear), takes a computer and the pilot light of a gas cooker and unsettlingly links them with something else I find difficult to

fathorn — what drives a man to do something to his daughter that will affect her life even when

childhood has given way to womanhood. The Secret of Fire is not the kind of play that crosses all the T's and dots all the I's.

Peter Davalle

BBC WORLD SERVICE

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RADIO CHOICE

The Secret of Fire

Radio 4, 2.15pm

The Pavlov Ballet

Desperately Seeking Stardom

ITV, 10pm

Joe Show

Channel 4, 9_30-11.40pm

Britain's Richest Kids

ITV. 9pm (except [reland]

Baadad into the Brit art scene: look out Damien.

Our presumed national obsession with wealth and those who have it has brought forth another film

about the plutocracy, this time those who are not yet 18 years old (although at least one achieves maturity during filming). Concentrating on the self-made millionaires and soon-to-bes, from

computer hardware dealers who haggle between lessons on mobile phones, through a luxury-car dealer who gave up school at 11, to Charlotte Church, the soprano whose voice earned her a

six-figure record deal at the age of 12, the film does

not suggest that money is there for the adolescent asking: hard work and sacrifice are emphasised.

September Films, who brought us Hollywood Wives, Pers and Sex now offer "Hollywood Wannabes": an eight-part series about six young people who would like to be film or television stars in Los Angeles. Two Britons and four Americans have been given a house to share for a few mounts,

but must pay their own way otherwise as they variously hustle and audition to get a toehold on

the ladder of fame. Your tolerance or liking for the

exercise will depend on how attractive and involving you find Camilla and Chris (the Brits),

Cliffhanger crises are nothing new in ballet, or Cliffhanger crises are nothing new in ballet, or opera, come to that. Particularly vulnerable are the little companies that exist without benefit of public subsidy. The Pavlov Ballet, based in Bristol, is such a company, and it is in serious trouble. The sort of optimism you could almost feel was abundant in a couple of programmes about the Pavlovians heard on Radio 4 last December; there is little of it left now. Pavlov Ballet is the brainchild of Russian twins, Alla Chachina and Ella Gusova. Having recruited dancers from St Petersburg, Mos-Having recruited dancers from St Petersburg, Moscow and Surrey, they staged Giselle, which was rat-ed a jolly good show. Tours followed. So did money worries. The question posed in Frances Byrnes's The Pavlov Ballet is: can it survive?

RADIO 1 (BBC)

6.30am Chris Moyles 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Jo Whitey 2.00pm Mark Radiciffe 4.00 Dave Pearos 5.45 Newsbeat 6.00 Pete Tong 9.00 Judge Jules 11.00 Westwood: Radio 1 Rap Show 2.00am Fabio and Groovendar 4.00 Emma B

RADIO 2 (BBC)

8.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruca 12.00 Janeny Young 2.00pm Ed Stewart 5.05 Des Lynam 7.00 The Michael Feinstein Songbook — Turns Another Page. The work of Frank Loesser (7/8) 7.30 Friday Night Is Music Night. From Goldens Green Hippochome in London, with Melanie E. Marshall, Robert Meadmore and the Katona Twins 9.15 Room at the Top. John Braine's novel 9.30 Listen to the Board 10 of The Brothers and Hammertein Story (45) 10.30 Bend 10.00 The Rodgers and Hammerstein Story (4/6) 10.30 Sheridan Morley 12.00 Lynn Parsons 4.00mm Jeckle Bird

RADIO 5 LIVE (BBC)

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 Sreaklast 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00pm John Inverdele 4.00 Drive 7.00 News Extra 7.30 Alan Green's Sportsnight. Preview of the San Marino Grand Prix and other weekend fetures 10.00 Late Night Live 1.00am Up All Nigh

TALK RADIO

6.00am The Big Boys Breeklast 9.00 Scott Chisholm 12.00 Motoring 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 OKI to Talk 5.00 The Sports Zone 8.00 Nicky Home's Access All Areas 10.00 James

VIRGIN

6.30am The Breeklast Snow 9.30 Russ Williams 1.00pm Nick Abbot 4.00 Hamet Scott 7.00 Wheels of Steel 11.00 Janey Les Grace 2.00am James Marntt

5.00am The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlook 7.55

5.00are The World Today 7.00 World News 7.15 Outlock 7.53
My Century 8.00 World News 8.05 World Business Report 8.15
Insight 8.30 Focus On Faith 9.00 World News 9.05 Westway
9.20 Oil the Shelf: Frankenstein 9.35 Science in Action 10.00
World News 10.05 Sparkling Of English 10.20 The Viritiga
Chart Show 10.50 Sports Round-Up 11.00 Newsdest 11.30
British Today 11.45 World Business Report 12.00 Newsdest
12.30pm Focus on Faith 1.00 World News 1.05 Outlook 1.45
Sports Round-Up 2.00 Newshour 3.00 World News 3.05
Science in Action 3.30 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.05
Science in Action 3.30 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.05
Coothell Edna 4.15 Science On A Plate 4.30 John Peal 5.00 Science in Action 3.30 Music Review 4.00 World News 4.05 Footbell Extra 4.15 Science On A Plate 4.30 John Peel 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Insight 6.00 Newsciesk 6.30 Short Story 6.45 Sports Round-Up 7.00 World News 7.15 Britain Today 7.30 Focus on Fath 8.00 World News 8.05 Science in Action 8.30 The Way We Are 8.45 Off the Shelt: Frankenstein 9.00 Newschour 10.00 World News 10.05 World Susiness Report 10.20 Britain Today 10.30 Music Review 11.00 World News 11.15 Sports Round-Up 11.30 John Peel 12.00 World News 12.05een Outlook 12.45 Insight 1.00 The World Today 1.30 Science in Action 1.55 My Century 2.00 The World Today 2.30 Mencian Books 3.00 The World Today 3.30 World Rusiness Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 3.30 World Business Report 3.45 Insight 4.00 The World Today 4.20 Sports Round-up 4.30 Weekend

CLASSIC FM

6.00em Nick Belley's Easier Breakfast, Music to get the day off to a fine start 8.00 Henry Kelly. The Heal of Feme Hour and Classic Masterpiece 12.00 Lunchtme Requests. Jane Jones Cassic Messepaces 12200 Entrainer requests seen than plays favourite music 2.00pen Concerto. Ho Zhan/Chen Kang (Butterfly Lover's Violin Concerto) 3.00 Jamie Crick. Continuous Classics, plus sport updates and travel news 6.30 Newsnight. Top stortes and interviews with guests from the arts world 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. John Brunning introduces classic sounds 9.00 Evening Concert, Britten (Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra), Tohalkorsky (Symphony No 5): Strauss/Till Eulenspiege(): Mahler (Songs of a Waytaser) 11.00 Mann at Night. Music through until the small hours 2.00ans Concerto. Ho Zhan/Chen Kang (Butterfly Lover's Violin Concerto) (r) 3.00 Mark Griffiths

(Sintonietta: Tuireadh; Veni, veni, Emmanuel, Percussion Concerto

9.00 Postscript Derek Alsoo explores what makes a

6.00am On Air Petroc Trelawny investigates a lestival celebrating 300 years of St Petersburg
9.00 Masterworks including Corelli (Concerto grosso in F, Op 6 No 12: Brandenburg Consort under Roy Goodman, violin); 9.12 Telemann (Cantata, Der Tod ist verschungen in den sleg); 9.33 Mozar (Frantasia in D minor: Misuko Uchida, piano); 9.42 Beethoven (Symphony No 7 in A; Boston SO under Lacnard Bemstein)
10.30 Artist of the Week Clarinettist Emma Johnson
11.00 Sound Stories Richard Balez looks at the history of the post of Master of the King's Music
12.00 Composer of the Week Clarinettist Emma Johnson
1.00pm The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert Lyric Quartet. Gavin Bryars (String Quartet No 3); Ravel (String Quartet in F) (r)
2.00 The BBC Orchestras BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Torteller, Barry Douglas, plano, Gintere Stearly, soprano, Stephen Roberts, beritone, Kaunas State Choir. Hindemith (Symphony in E fatt); Brahms (Plano Concerto No 2 in B fatt); Faure (Requiem)
4.00 Musete Restored Robert Hollingworth looks at some of the best Handel recordings (r)
5.00 in Tunne Music includes Mozart's Paris Symphony, No 31, performance by the Orchestra of the 18th Century under Frans Bruggen
7.30 Performance on 3 James MacMillan comducts

Percussion Concerto 9.00 Postscript Derek Alsop explores what makes a great musical satting through five case studies 9.20 Tatits Scholars Victoria (Missa pro defunctic a 8) 10.00 Hear and Now Verity Sharp introduces a concert from the Nash Ensemble's "20th-Century Music" series, given last month on the South Bank, London, and talks to the teatured composers, who span three generations. Valdine Anderson, soprano, Nash Ensemble under Martyn Brabbins. Huw Watkins (Sonata for cello and eight instruments — first performance); Mark-Anthony Tumage (Cortege for Chris); David Matthews (The Sleeping Lord); Julian Anderson (Towards Poetry); Jonathan Harvey (Song Offerings) 11.30 Jazz Century (Sourading the Century) Early Chamber Jazz (17/52) (r) 12.00 Through the Night Including 12.05 Schumann (Konzenstuck in F); 12.25 Peire d'Alverna (Dejosta, is breus jomae la lonca); 12.35 Beethoven (Plano Sonata in E, Op 109); 1.00 Rameau (Platee); 3.20 Poulenc (Sintonietta); 3.50 Lefebure-Wely (Sortie in E flat); 4.00 Rachmaritov (Piano Concerto No 2 in C manor); 4.35 Strauss (Overture, Der Zigeunerbaron); 4.45 Federico Morano Torroba (La marchenera); 5.00 Brakms (Fest-und Gedenkspruche); 5.10 Sendor Szokolay (Violin Concerto): 5.35 Brahms (Four Piano Pieces, Op 119); 5.55 Trad (Begpipe Tunes) RADIO 4

9.45 (LW) An Act of Worship
10.00 Woman's Hour With Jerni Murray, Drama: Part five of Postcards, by Nick Darks
11.00 The Pavlov Battet See Choice
11.30 Married Robin is accused of murdering his family.

11.00 The Paviov isener See Unions

11.30 Married Robin is accused of murdering his family.
Last instalment of the cornedy drama, with Hugh Bonneville and Josie Lawrence (6/6)

12.00 (FM) News

12.00 (LW) News Headlines; Shipping Forecast

12.04pm You and Yours Consumer issues

1.00 The World at One With Nick Clarke

1.30 Fearthank Proported by Recor Rolling

6.30 The News Quiz Topical quiz with Alan Coren. Linda Smith and Francis Wheen, hosted by Simon 7.00 The Archers Where is Julia?
7.15 Front Row Arts raview, presented by Mark

7.45 Postcards Floisam and Jetsam. Part five of Nick Darke's tale, starring Diana Berriman. Paul makes a life-changing decision. Broadcast earlier as part

a lite-changing decision. Broadcast earlier us part of Worman's Hour (r)

8.00 Any Questions? MPs Menzies Campbell, Sir Edward Heath, Tony Benn and Deflyd Wigley address issues raised by an audience in Swindon. Nick Clarke chairs

8.45 Letter from America Alistair Cooke presents another slice of Stateside tite

9.00 The Friday Play: Learning the Language Aman follows the girl of his dreams to her native Spain, but encounters problems communicating

Spain, but encounters problems communicating his feetings. Romantic comedy by Harwart Bans, with Gregor Truter and Stuart Milligan (r)

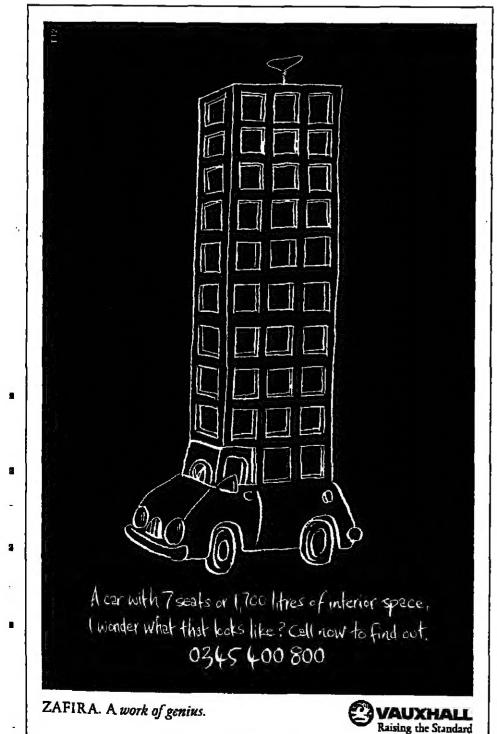
10.00 The World Tonight News round-up, with Robin

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Service of Clouds
Joanna David reads the final instalment of Susan
Hill's novel 11.00 (FM) Late Night on 4: Late Tackle Eleanor
Oldroyd chairs a discussion on current sports

issues, including rugby league's cup final between London and Leeds at Wembley, plus a look ahead to the cricket World Cup 11.30 (LW) Today in Parliament Update from 12.00 News

12.30am The Late Book Biggest Elvis Ron Bergiss concludes his reading of P.F. Kluge's novel (f) 12.48 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.5584)-CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM 105.6; MW 1197, 1215. TALK RADIO. MW 1053, 1089. Television and radio listings compiled by Perry Cleveland-Peck, Iam Hughes, Gillian Massey, Jame Grogory and Rosey O'Castle.

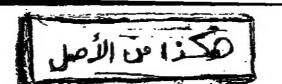


Date prompt #1/2

12 -

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CLASSES



To boldly go where most have gone before

This is what public service broadcasting is all about, I suppose. The BBC has always been excellent at popularis-ing science for the few million Jude the Obscures who care to watch and here comes a shower of educational comets to crash on to our minds and wipe out the pea-brained Chris Tarrantosaurs.

By pure coincidence, the first instalment of The Planets (BBC2). which described the formation of the solar system in a blizzard of impacts, clashed with The Last Train, ITV's fantasy about life after a meteor strike. In the event, however, the programme made a rather gentle impression, leaving a relatively small crater in this viewer's consciousness.

The problem is that much of the material was familiar. We have seen the images of Schumaker-Levy o crashing into Jupiter. We have crossed the rings of Saturn, in fly-past images and computer

interplanetary void with Professor Stephen Hawking, safely tucked up in an advertisement for a chain of high-street opticians.

But this was the ambitious opening of a highly ambitious series and there were plenty of bright nuggets to keep us interested. Two histories were interlaced: the story of how the planets were discovered, named and explored and the emergence of a theory of how they were formed. Emmanuel Kant, it seems, had

worked out in the 18th century that the planets had probably "accreted" from a cloud of cosmic gas. This is impressive, Had Sophocles worked out evolution or Descartes twigged the theory of relativity?

Over billions of years, a vast disc of gas and dust, circling the Sun, coalesced into lumps of rock. These crashed into each other, forming larger bodies, until there were more than 100 mini planets.

simulations. We have sailed the If the pictures of the planets themselves were familiar, the simulations of this cosmic chariot race were not and this sequence was the programme's most satisfying.

> The dark side of space exploration has always been its intimate connection with military research. As Nazi Germany collapsed, the Ameri-cuns raced to snatch Werner von Braun and his V2 technology before the Russians could get their hands on him. I expect the citizens of London would have liked to get their hands on him, too, but he was whisked off to New Mexico to

start the space race.
It is chilling that the first space rockets were based on these dreadful weapons. "Isn't that beautiful." said a military observer at Nasa as Mariner 10 passed Mercury in 1973, "It's just like a B52 drop in "Nam." Aesthetic pleasure is a personal thing.

REVIEW



Paul Hoggart

The star of the show was Hal Levison of the South West Research Institute of Colorado. With his beard and floppy hat, he looked like a piece of cosmic debris flung from the rock band ZZ Top. He talked like it, too. "All hell breaks loose," he said of the period of planetary accretion. "It's a very violent, happening party." For Levison the formation of the planets is the new rock 'n' roll.

The vistas of open space were closer to home in **Grand Designs** (Channel 4). We have programmes redesigning people's gardens and interior decor, so why not put up an entire house? This series follows the fortunes of people who realise what is probably a very common fantasy — designing your own home and getting it built.

Tim Cox and his parmer Julia Brock, who already had four girls between them from previous relationships, were racing to build their clifftop nest in time for Julia to have her third child in the new

I once stayed in a huge and wellappointed log cabin on a remote lake in the Adirondack Mountains of upstate New York. It had been built in the 1930s from a kit sent by rail from the Midwest and assembled on site. The Americans, it seems, have a long tradition of self-assembly housing.

This is now spreading to Britain.

where inevitably, we get it slightly wrong. The cheapest and easiest way to build your dream home is to mix-and-match from a selection of timber-framed instant housing segments. These arrive in flatpacks, like the MFI kitchen unit which fell off the wall of our first home, or the Ikea blanket box which still disassembles itself at quite regular intervals on our bedroom floor.

ortunately, there are no cardboard boxes to clutter the new front garden for weeks and the builders used nails to put it together rather than the Allen key provided. But Tim and Julie still found that some of the win-dows didn't fit and the roof-tiles were not a bit like the ones they had seen in their heads.

This was a salutary programme. They had numerous problems, went over-budget and even sacked their architect. But they really loved the end result, achieved with the help of the presenter Kevin McCloud, a brisk and cheery realist, and I hope it stays up for many, many weeks.

American television audiences

only seem to swallow biting social saure if it comes in the form of a cartoon. Despite its soft, sentimental centre The Simpsons still keeps up a machinegun spray of side-swipes at American culture. So does King of the Hill, while Beavis and Butthead and South Park dredge up grisly swamp-things from the murky pools of the

adolescent mind. So Dilbert (Sky One), the animation of the world's most popular comic-strip, apparently, belongs to what is rapidly becoming a hoary old tradition. It is gently surreal, in a Gary Larson sort of way, and plays havoc with the self-regard-ing idiocies of American business culture. Ribs were tickled, if sides

6.00em Business Breakfast (45498) 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (T) (81127) 9.00 Kilroy (T) (9438214) 9.45 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook (r) (T) (496479)

10.15 The Vanessa Show (T) (5944158) 11.00 News; Weather (T) (5399818) 11.05 City Hospital (T) (9509547) 11.55 News; Weether (T) (3190950) 12.00 Going for a Song (1483437) 12.25pm Just a Minute (T) (8233914) 12.55 The Weather Show (1) (11099672) 1.00 News; Weather (T) (84214)

1.30 Regional News; Weather (58437924) 1.40 Neighbours (1) (16688721) 2.05 transide (r) (1583479)

2.53 Tales from the Net (1) (8770943) 2.55 Through the Keyhole (T) (2542634)
3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (8989618)
3.45 Roald Dahi's Revolting Recipes

3.43 road Laris revoling recipes (5087295) 4.00 Anthony Ant (5263566) 4.15 Get Your Own Back (7753059) 4.35 The Mesk (7977363) 5.00 Newsround (5909160) 5.10 Blue Peter (2777059) 5.35 Neighbours (r) (T) (386924) 6.00 Stx O'Clock News; Weather (1) (189)

6.30 Regional News Magazine (769) 7.00 Weekend Watchdog with Anne Robinson (T) (9214) 7.30 Top of the Pops Featuring Westlife. Armend Van Heldon, Fatboy Slim and Martine McCutcheon (T) (653)

8.00 Only Fools and Horses Del and Rodney have a night out in the West End (r) (T) (5634) 8.30 The Builders The dust finally settles as Fiona and Richard eagerly await the builders' departure so that they can bring

home their beloved dog from the kennels (8/8) (T) (4769) 9.00 News; Weather (T) (147950) 9.35 The Matchmaker Alun Jenkins Invited guests from the Executive Club to a party on one of his members' yachts. Will the revellers hit if off? (1), (952276)



Madonna and Willem Dafoe embark

11.05 Body of Evidence (1992) Lawyer llem Daloe is drawn into a bizame sexual relationship with murder suspect Madonna. Steamy thriller, with Anne Archer. Directed by Uli Edel (T) (928189) 12.35am The Cisco Kid (TVM, 1994) Western, starring Jimmy Smits and Cheech Marin as two righteous cowboys trekking across the prairie. Directed by

2.05 Weather (5980623) 2.10 BBC News 24 (22492807)

9.00am-9.45 Election Call (2/4) (T) (9438214) 9.30-9.35 Party Election Broadcast (388059) 2.05em-2.10 News (T) (5980623)

BBC2

7.00em Children's BBC Breakfast Show: Noddy in Toyland (83585) 7.30 Top Cat (8488189) 7.55 50/50 (8736382) 8.18 Rewind (9605295) 8.20 Destardly and Muttley (8441653) 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (3924672) 8.50 Tales of Aesop (3920858) 9.00 Daylime On Two: Isabel (4462301) 9.10 Sportsbank Dancs (8753905) 9.45 Come Outside (7812383) 10.00 Children's BBC: Teletubbies (45837) 10.30 Daytime On Two: Megamaths (9909566) 10.50 Look and Read (9912030) 11.10 Landmarks (1363382) 11.30 The Animaled Epics (9672) 12.00 Shakespeare: The Animaled Tales (50108) 12.30pm

Working Lunch (78092) 1.00 Children's BBC: Johnson and Fnends (38682301)

Snooker: World Championship John Higgins plays Mark Williams in the first semi-finel (84753214)

6.00 The Simpsons (r) (T) (347301) 6.20 Lee and Herring's Thia Morning With Richard, Not Judy (r) (T) (255856) 6.50 Snooker: World Championship Coverage of the first semi-final (977837)



Niccolo Machiavelli's philosophy comes under the spotlight (7.30pm)

7.30 Walden on Villains Brien Walden reassesses the relevance of Italian political theologian Niccolo Machavell's philosophy — that the preservation of authority justifies the means of government, however wicked — in his 1532 back The Prince (4/5) (1) (295)

8.00 As the Crow Flies Janet Street-Porter examines the life of 17th-century writer John Bunyan as she travels from Bedford to the M25, and takes a stroll with Elton John (T) (3276)

8.30 Gardeners' World The team look at the garden trade's preparations for the Bank Holiday weekend (T) (5011) 9.00 Have I Got News For You With Trevor

Phillips (T) (5479) 9.30 Snooker: World Championship John Higgins v Mark Williams and Stephen Hendry v Ronnie O'Sullivan (55295)

10.30 Video Nation Shorts (T) (677498) 10.35 Newsnight (T) (165061) 11.18 Tales from the Net (T) (535108)

11.20 Later with Jools Holland With Skunk Anansie and Mercury Rev (984295) 12.20am Sex, Censorship and the Silver

Screen Films released from 1933 to 1950 (3/6) (4637081) 1.20 Torment (1944) Swedish thriller. schoolboy falls for a prostitute. Starring Mai Zetterling. Directed by Alf Sjoberg

2.55 Weather (2435826) 3.00-5.00 BBC Learning Zone: GCSE

Bitesize Revision: Spanish (10246) 10.30pm-10.35 Party Election Broadcast

HTV WEST

5.30am ITV Morning News (41160) 6.00 GMTV (2371924) 9.25 Trisha (T) (3024295) 10.30 This Morning (1) (49631363) 12.15pm HTV News (1) (7594547) 12.30 ITV News; Weather (T) (2118301) 12.55 Up the Creek (r) (T) (1284479) 1.30 Home and Away (T) (16684905) 1.55 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (5542363 2.40 Wheel of Fortune (1) (2548818)

3.10 ITV News Headlines (T) (5249214)
3.15 HTV News (T) (5248585)
3.20 CTTV: Malsy (52485498) 3.25 Big Bag (5228721) 3.35 Animal Stories (5092127)
3.45 Giggly Bitzl (5072363) 4.00 Pump It Up (108) 4.30 Dexter's Laboratory (932)

5.00 Home and Away (r) (T) (1818) 5.30 Sportsweek (872) 5.58 HTV Weather (988672) 6.00 HTV News (T) (585)

6.29 HTV Crimestoppers (505498) 6.30 ITV Evening News; Weather (T) (837) 7.00 Bruce Forsyth's Play Your Cards Right (1) (4382)

7.30 Coronation Street (T) (721) 8.00 Parking Wars An habitual offender attempts to persuade clamper Mark to let him off (6/6) (T) (3030) 8.30 Motorway Life The emergency services

are put under pressure during the last Bank Holiday of the summer (1) (9837) 9.00 CHOICE Britain's Richest Kids Intimate profiles of high-flying teenagers (T) (7189)

CLOICE Desparately Seeking Stardom Six young hopefuls search for fame and fortune (1) (48363)



Ventriloquist David Strassman and his alter ego, Chuck Wood (10.30pm)

10.30 CHOICE Stressman New series, with the American ventriloquist David Strassman (T) (57011)

11.00 ITV Nightly News; Weather (T) (612194) 11.20 HTV News and Weather (T) (654672) 11.35 Millennium (r) (502740)

12.30am Dial a Date New senes. Game show in which viewers have the chance to date the contestants (61062) 1.00 Popped In, Crashed Out New series Phil Alexander coerces celebrity guests

back to his flat for a notous round of music trivia (16739) 1.30 Club@vision (2145401) 2.10 The Haunted Fishtank (r) (7480623)

2.40 The Jerry Springer Show (1) (2550623) 3.25 Trisha r (r) (T) (8452536) 4.25 Night Shift (74385888)

4.45 ITV Nightscreen (91216449) 5.00 Coronation Street (r) (T) (55130) ABS AND THE STATE OF THE STATE

As HTV WEST except: 12.55pm-1:30 Get Gardening! (r) (1) (1284479) 5.30-5.58 Quiz. Challenge (1) (672) 6.25-6.29 Party Election

CENTRAL As HTV West except 12.20pm-12.30 Central News; Weather (T) (9712276) 12.55 Home and Away (T) (2193092) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (4374108) 2.10-2.40 Wish You Were Here? (r) (T) (89347479) 3.15-3.20 Central News; Weather (T) (5248585) 5.30 Surprise Gardeners (T) (672) 6.00-6.30 Central News ast Sbr, Weather (T) (672) 8:00-6.30 Lettral News at Sbr, Weather (T) (585) 11:20-11:30 Central News; Weather (T) (924943) 11:30-12:35 Late Tackle (798295) 2:20am The Jerry Springer Show (T) (1823062) 3:00 Box Office America (64179888) 3:25 The Haunted Fishtank (f) (64181623) 3.50 Central Jobfinder '99 (T) (9107178) 5.20-5.30 Asian Eye (3419284)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.27
Westcountry News; Weather (T) (7594547)
12.27-12.30 Huminations 19720295)
12.55-1.25 Westcountry Lunchtime Live (T) 12.55-1.25 Westcountry Lunchtime Live (1) (2193092) 1.25 The Jerry Springer Show (T) (4374108) 2.10-2.40 Home and Away (T) (89347479) 3.15-3.20 Westcountry News; Weether (T) (5248585) 4.59-5.00 Birthday People (5491540) 5.30 Westcountry Weekend (T) (672) 5.00-6.30 Westcountry Live; Weather (T) (585) 11.20-11.30 Westcountry News; Weather (T) (924943) 11.30-12.30 Movie Magic (r) (23455)

- MERIDIAN

As HTV West except: 12.15pm-12.30 Meridian News; Weather (7594547) 12.55-1.30 News; Weather (7594547) 12.55-1.30 Shortland Street (1284479) 5.30 Under Offer (1/10) (672) 6.00-6.30 Meridian Tonight (1) (585) 7.29-7.30 Meridian Weather (641059) 11.20-11.35 Meridian News; Weather (7) (654672) 5.00am-5.30 Freescreen (1) (55130)

ANGLIA

As HTV West except: 12.14pm Anglia Air Watch (9725740) 12.15-12.30 Anglia News and Weather (7594547) 12.55-1.30 Shortland Street (1284479) 5.29 Anglia Air Watch (5723360) 5.30 Home Grown (672) 5.58 Anglia Weather (T) (988672) 6.00-6.30 Anglia News (T) (585) 11.19 Anglia Air Watch (522634) 11.20-11.35 Anglia News and Weather (T) (654672)

940

Starts: 5,55am Sesame Street (28407295) 7.00 The Big Breakfast (69374059) 9.00 at Work (92699585) 9.30 Eureka (37104127) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (37192382) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (54147491) 10.10 The Mix (62096160) 10.25 News (62015295) 10.45 Same Difference (15319818) 10.50 What's the Story (39366905) 11.05 The Number Crew (47997382) 11.15 Stage One (25742818) 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (90079853) 12.00 Home Improvement (T) (63808721) 12.30pm Sesame Street (T) (93706189) 1.00 Planed Plant (T) (69344818) 1.30 The Three Stooges (r) (99610189) 1.55 Racing from Newmarket and Punchestown (15732547) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (99746479) 4.30 Rick Lake (I) (99735363) 5.00 Planed Plant (41117276) 5.30 Countdown (I) (99759943) 6.00 Party Election Broadcast (70578547) 6.05 Newyddion 6 (1) (70577818) 6.10 Heno (T) (39071108) 7.00 Pobol y Cwm (T) (41120740) 7.30 Darflediad Etholiado (56258943) 7.35 Newyddion (T) (31607059) 8.05 Galw'r Fet (T) (84053214) 8.35 Y Chwb Rygbi (1) (52269479) 9.05 Y Byd Ar Be (7) (57754721) 9.35 Friends (1) (1) (84275127) 10.05 Brookside (1) (51580479) 10.40 Etholiad "99 (29065769) 10.55 Frasier (7) (81561566) 11.25 Le Show (2/7) (1) (85101837) 11.55 TF Friday (75515856) 1.00am 4 Later; Pulp (30563352) 1.20 Flava (47381159) 1.55 The Mod Squad (42343352) 2.50 Vids (1) (229 38710) 3.20 FILM: The Awakening (97022913) 5.00 Diwedd

CHANNEL 4

5.55am Seşame Street (5477363)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (74837) 9.00 Schools: Off Limits (7420276) 9.25 Schools at Work (3674837) 9.30 Eureka (7819276) 9.45 Stop, Look, Listen (7847059) 10.00 The Complete Cosmos (7715450) 10.10 The Mix (1036498) 10.25 News (1024653) 10.40 Same Difference (8114363) 10.50 What's the Story (3475740) 11.05 The Number Crew

(5305479) 11.15 Stage One (6827672) 11.30 Powerhouse (4740) 12.00 Sesame Street (T) (45276)

12.30pm Bewitched (r) (T) (63160) 1.00 Suddenly Susan (77924)

1.30 The Three Stooges (r) (16682547)
1.55 Racing from Newmarket and Punchestown Including the 2.05, 2.35 and 3.10 races from Newmarket, and the 3.15 from Punchestown (T) (69935672) 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (T) (450)

4.30 Countdown (T) (7994030) 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (9749363) 5.30 Pet Rescue (T) (214) 5.00 TFI Friday Chris Evans is joined by Joan Colins and Gen Halliwell (88479)
 7.00 Channel 4 News; Weather (T) (594653)

7.55 Margaret Thatcher: Where Am I Now?
An animated look at the Thatcher years. Last in the series (5/5) (T) (418943) 8.00 Real Gardens New series. In the Inst programme, Monty Don, Carol Klein and Anne Marie Powell meet a man with a passion for topiary and concrete omaments, and help a women to restore

the area surrounding her old manor house (1/20) (T) (1672) 8.30 Brookside (1) (7479)

9.00 Friends (r) (T) (1117) 9.30 CHOICE Smack the Pony Offbeat sketch show, with Flona Allen, Doon Mackichan and Sally Phillips. Last in the series (7/7) (T) (83924)

10.00 CROCE Frasier Nies and Frasier throw a dinner party. Comedy, with Kelsey Grammer (1) (46905)



Adam Buxton and Joe Cornish take the mickey (11.05pm)

11.05 CROICE The Adam and Joe Show Featuring a soft-loy tribute to Shakespeare (3/6) (1) (151030) 11.40 TFI Friday (r) (810914)

12.45am 4 Later Introduction, Pulo (3218333) 1.05 Flava The black music scene (8268888) 1.40 The Mod Squad (7226352) 2.35 Vids (r) (5983710)

3.05 The Awakening (1980) Charlton Heston stars as an archaeologist who is convinced his baby daughter is possessed by the spirit of an Ancient Egyptian queen. Chiller, with Susannah York. Make Newell directs (1) (676913) 4.55 Concerto Beethoven's First Piano

Concerto (2/6) (r) (4364710)

not split.

6.00am 5 News and Sport (5232585) 7.00 Wideworld (r) (T) (2182301) 7.30 Milkshakel (2987059)

7.35 Muppet Bables (4301672) 8.00 Havakazoo (r) (8161905) 8.30 Dappledown Farm (r)e (8180276) 9.00 The Roseanne Show (r) (5894214)

9.50 Russell Grant's Postcards (8202547) 9.55 The Bold and the Beautiful Shela

reveals her feelings for James (T) (8038566)

10.20 Sunset Beach (T) (4594127) 11.10 Leeza (3259092) 12.00 5 News at Noon (T) (6184092)

12.00 5 News at Noon (1) (6184982)
12.30pm Family Affairs (r) (T) (6380491)
1.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show (4152653)
1.50 McMillan: Dark Sunrise (TVM 1977) A
Table murder attempt leads Mac on an undercover assignment to track down his own would-be killers. Mystery, starring Rock Hudson Directed by Robert Finkel;
5 News Undare (28994160)

5 News Update (28294160) 3.15 Wuthering Heights (1970) Adaptation of Emily Bronté's classic tale about an engmatic gypsy's love for the headstrong daughter of a welf-to-do Yorkshire family. Timothy Delton and Anna Calder-Marshall star, Directed by Beher Einet (23894475).

Robert Fuesi (33834479) 5.10 5 News (T) (59580189)

5.15 Russell Grant's Postcards (39015856) 5.30 100 Per Cent (6489856)

6.00 5 News; Weather (T) (6486769) 6.30 Family Affairs (1) (6460721) 7.00 in the Net (2/4) (2496905)

7.30 Wildlife SOS III New series. Cameras follow the thals and traumas experienced by the dedicated army of volunteers at the Wildlife Aid animal rescue and rehabilitation centre (1/13) (T); 5 News Lipotate (6466905)

8.00 Island of Ghosts The natural and cultural history of the Island of Madagascar (T) (9670672) 9.00 Women of Valour (TVM 1986) Second

World War drama about the courage and determination shown by a group of American Army nurses held in a Japanese Pow camp. Staring Susan Sarandon, Kristy McNichol, Alberta Watson and Terry O'Curin. Directed by Directed by 100 March 1981 (1981).

Buzz Kulik (T) (49539127) 10,50 Lexo: The Dark Zone Stories The crew

11.50 Shades of Grey (1994) Former LA police sketch artist Kelly Burns marries a trucker who is subsequently framed for Tense thriller, with Doug Jeffery. Directed by Jag Mundhra (74562837)

1.55am The Happening (1967) A group of ambitious young crooks hold a powerful underworld boss to ransom, but his nearest and dearest refuse to pay up. Crime drama, starring Anthony Quinn Directed by Elliot Silverstein (5875975)

3.45 The Painted Smile (1961) A female con anist becomes convinced that a fugitive murdered her partner, despite his protests to the contrary. Suspense Lance Comfort (8451352)

4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (4131081) 5.30 100 Per Cent (r) (4741307)

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SATELLITE, CABLE AND DIGITAL

• For further listings see Saturday's Vision SKY ONE

7.00em Count Duckule (27943) 7.30 Godzila (99950) 8.00 Pokemon (18899) Godzila (9950) 8.00 Potermon (16699) 8.39 Holywood Squares (90740) 9.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (17127) 10.00 The Oprah Whitey Stow (99914) 11.00 Guilty (22498) 12.00 Jenny Jones (15547) 1.00pm Mad About You (26214) 1.30 Jenpardy (29011) 2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (90324) 3.00 Jenny Jones (37265) 4.00 Guilty (49030) Jenny Jones (37265) 4.00 Guilty (49030) Jenny Jones (37265) 9.00 The Simpsone (5476) 8.00 The Simpsone (4924) 8.30 The Simpsone (4924)

SKY BOX OFFICE Sky's pay-par-view movie channels. To view any firm telephone 0990 80088 Sky BOX OFFICE 1 (Transponder 51) U-Turm (1967) SKY 80x OFFICE 2 (Transponder 60)

US Marshels (1998) SXY BOX OFFICE 3 (Transponder 59) Triansponder 59) St.Y BOX OFFICE 4 (Transponder 58) Fire Down Balaus (1999) SKY PREMIER

5.00am Courage Mountain (1990) (52301) 8.00 Indiscretion of an American Housewife (1998) (79818) 10.00 Free Willy III. The Rescue (1997) (3848) 12.00 Courage Mountain (1990) (92789) 2.00pm Helio Again (1987) (79789) 4.00 kndiscretion of an American Housewife (1988) (4491) 6.00 Free Willy III. The Rescue (1987) (5995) 8.00 Wilde (1997) (5450) 10.00 The Full Monty (1997) (545638) 11.35 Sweet Nothing (1997) (350588) 11.35 Sweet Nothing (1994) 1.556479) 1.050m Pittina wife) Dessiar (355479) 1.05mm Fibring with Di: (1996) (315159) 2.40 The Delivera

(1995) (80456585) 9.00 Love is Strange (1997) (84740) 11.00 To Fecs Her Past (1996) (51634) 1.00 The Baby-Sitter's Club (1995) (95 56) 3.00 Love is \$ (1997) (75092) 5.00 To Face Her Past (1996) (84189) 7.00 P.Review (3672) 7.30 How to Get Ahead in Film (8011) 8.00 UK Top 10 (9092) 8.30 Move Magic Old and

SKY CINEMA FILMFOUR

6.00pm Shori Films (834818) 8.00 LA Takadown (1989) (8838363) 10.00 Heat

8.00pm Short Parts (2494) 4.00 Takadown (1989) (8539363) 10.00 Heat (1995) (95925092) 12.50am Polson (1990) (12507517) 2.55 The Fermi Angola, USA (1996) (2874642) 4.30 Godzilla v King Ghidorah (1991) 9.00pm WCW Neta (65075769) 11.35 WCW Thunder (42802943) 1.30pm Cry Terror (1958) (57837994) 3.15-5.00 The

SKY SPORTS 1 SKY SPORTS 1

7.80am Sports Centre 7.15 Wrestling 8.15
You're On Sky Sports! 9.00 Recong News
9.30 Aerobics Oz Style 10.00 Formula
Three 10.30 Formula Palmer Audi 11.00
Football League Review 12.00 Aerobics Oz
Style 12.30pm World oil Crickel 1.00 Live
European Tour Golf 5.00 Fubbi Mundial
5.30 What A Weeland 6.00 Sports Centre
7.00 World of Cricket 7.30 European Tour
Golf 10.00 Sports Centre 11.00 Hold the
Back Page 12.00 Premier League Preview
12.30am Sports Centre 1.30 World of
Cricket 2.00 World Wresling Federation
Raw 4.30 Football 5.30 World Sport Special

SKY SPORTS 2 7.00em Aerobics e 7.30 Sports Centre 7.45 Record News 8.15 Rebel Sports 8.45 Spors Centre 9.00 Trans World Sport 10.00 US Golf 12.00 Rugby Club 2.00pm What is Weekend 2.30 World Sports 2.00 Survival of the Fitters 3.30 Sports Unlimited 4.20 Formula Painter Audi 5.00 Formula These 5.30 World Sport I 6.00 Moto-Plus 8.30 Selfing 7.00 Live Fridey Night Footbal 10.00 US Golf 12.00 Footbal 1.30spt Moto-Plus 2.00 Selfon 2.90 Sports Centre Moto-Pus 2.00 Saling 2.30 Sports Cartre 3.30 US Got 5.30 Moto-Plus SKY SPORTS 3

12.00em Trans World Sport 1.00pm Formula Trans 1.30 Formula Painter Audi 2.00 Bobby Charlton's Football Scraptood. 2.30 Football League Review 4.30 Trans World Sport 8.30 Watersports World 8.30 Inside the Serior PGA Tour 7.00 Mex Power 4.00 Texas Sport 9.30 Externs Saling 10.00 World Westing Federation. Raw 12.00 Close EUROSPORT

7.30em Coll 8.30 Football 10.00 Modern Pentathlon 11.00 Football 1.00 Racing Line 2.00 Live Tennis 8.39 Football 5.30 Truck Zuru Lwe Tennis 3.30 Footbal 5.30 Truot Racing 6.00 Motor Sport 7.00 Surno 8.00 Boarg 10.00 Ten Pin Bowing 11.00 Extrems Sports 12.00 Mountain Biking 12.30am Cose UK GOLD

T.00am Cruseroeds 7.30 Neighbours 7.55
EastEnders 8.30 The Bill 8.00 The Bill 9.30
The House of Elion 10.30 Phode 11.00
Dallas 11.55 Neighbours 12.25pm
EastEnders 1.00 Bugs 2.00 Dallas 2.55
The Bill 9.25 The Bill 9.35 EastEnders 4.30
Phode 3.00 Derogenied 8.00 Dynasty 7.00
Some Mothers Do "Ave "Em 7.40 Last of the Summer White 8.20 Darks Army 9.00 Only Fools and Horses 9.40 The Student Princa 11.40 The Bill 12.10am The Bill 12.40 Dr
Who Crmebus 2.25 Darks Army 9.00 Chy
Shopping with Schearshop GRANADA PLUS

6.00am Wish Me Luck 7.00 Pus On Plus 7.30 The Odd Couple 8.00 Families 8.30 Mind Your Language 9.00 Classic Coronation Street 8.30 Emmendate 10.00 Upclars, Downsars 11.00 Cherte's Angels 12.00 Classic Combation Street 12.30pm Emmerdet 1.00) Mind Your Language 1.30 Me and My Gid 2.00 Upclars, Downslars 3.00 This Love 60at 4.00 The Professionals 5.00 Charle's 1.00 Me 200 Charle's 1.00 Me 200 Charle's 1.00 C 6.00



Wesley Snipes plays a fugitive on the run from the law in the tense thriller US Marshals (Sky Box Office 2)

7.00 The Professionals 8.00 TheBenny Hill Show9.00 The Switeney 10,00 Hale and Page 18.38 The Comedians 11.00 Granada Men and Motors

CARLTON SELECT 5.00pm What's Cooling? 5.30 Gndicol-6.00 Animal SOS 6.30 Our House 7.00 6.00 Animal SCS 6.30 Our House 7.00 Boon 8.00 Blue Heelers 9.00 Firsh Subbs Promotes 19.00 The Good Ser Guide 10.30 The Screen 11.00 Hall Street Blues 12.00 Tales of the Unexpected 12.30em FILM: Sleeping Dogs (1877) 2.00 Close

DISNEY CHANNEL 8.00 m Gummi Boars 6.25 Classic Toons 8.35 Talespin 7.00 Classic Toons 7.18 Aladdin 7.36 101 Dalmanans 8.00 Gool Tropp 8.25 Classic Toons 8.45 New Adventures of Winnie the Pooh 9.00 The Adventures of Spot 9.07 Ammai Shell 9.17 Poolet Dragon Adventures 9.30 Bear at the Big Blue House 9.55 The Troothbrush Farrely 10.00 See Szp 10.12 Rose and Jim 10.20 The Big Gazons 10.45 PS and J Offer 10.30 The Big Garage 10.45 PB and J Otter 11.00 Sessing Sapet 12.00 The Adventures

Soot 12.07pm Animal Stell 12.17

FOX KIDS NETWORK

Pocket Dragon Adventures 12.30 Bear in the Big Blue House 12.55 The Toothbrush Family 1.00 Bits Size 1.12 Rosse and Jim 1.30 The Big Garrier 1.45 Pis and J One 2.00 New Adventures of Winnie the Pools 2.30 Cueck Pack 3.00 The Life Mermard 3.30 An Albert, 4.00 101 Detanation, 4.30 Heroules: The TV Show 5.00 Rosses: 5.15 Papper Arm 6.30 Smart Guy 8.00 Teen Angel 6.30 Boy Meets World 7.00 FILM: Munder She Purmet: A Mirs Murphy Mysterry (1996) 8.30 Honey I Shrunk the Kds: The TV Show 9.15 Drossours 10.00 Hone Improvement 10.30 The Wonder Years 11.00 Touched by an Angel 11.50 Classe Toons 12.00 Close PARAMOUNT COMEDY

8.00cm Power Rangers Turbo 8.30 Power Rangers Turbo 8.55 Spiderman 7.20 Oggy and the Codwoodhes 7.30 Dennis and Gnesher 8.00 Hero Turtles The Next Mutation 8.25 The incredible Hulk 8.50 Inon Man 9.15 Fantastic Four 740 X-Men 10.05 Casper 10.30 Oggy and the Codwoodhes 10.55 EskSmweganzs 11.05 Bobby's World 11.30 Life with Louis 11.55 Home to

Rent 12.05pm The Secret Files of the Spy Dogs 12.30 Donley Kong County 1.00 Mowgli. The New Adventures of the Jungle Book 1.25 Ace Ventura 1.55 The Incredible Hus. 2.20 Iron Man 2.45 Fentasiic Four 3.10 / Men 3.30 X-Press 3.35 Spide 4.00 Gocaebumos 4.25 Hero Turtles The Next Musicon 5.00 Dennis and Grasher 5.30 Ace Ventura 6.00 Donkey Kong Country 6.30 SeldShavaganza 6.55 Oggy and the Cockroaches 7.00 Closa NICKELODEON

6.00am Extreme Ghostbusters 6.30 Bruno the Kid 7.00 CaDoq 7.30 Rugrats 8.00 Hey Arnold 8.30 Doug 9.00 Chidren's BBC 10.00 Wimbe's House 10.30 Papa Beaver Stories 11.00 The Magic School Bus 11.30 PB Bearl/Airmal Antics/Family Ness 12.00 Rugrats 12.30pm Blue's Class 1.00 Banarias in Pygratet 1.30 Frankin 2.00 Paddington Bear 1.22e's Library/Portland Bill/M Men/Nor the Engine 2.30 Children's BBC 3.00 Children's BBC 3.30 Doug 4.00 Angry Beavers 4.30 Rugrats 6.00 Sater State 5.30 Nenen and Kel 6.00 Satoma the Teenage Witch 6.30 The Secret Life of Alex Mack 7.00 Close

6.00em Extreme Ghostbusiers 6.30 Bruno

BRAVO 8.00pm Martial Law 8.30 Rab C Nesbit 9.00 Cops 9.30 The Late Lounge 10.00 9.00 Cops 9.30 The Late Loungs 10.00 Eurome Championship Wiresting 10.30 Eroic Confessors 11.00 FILM: The Fly II (1989) 1.00em Eroic Confessors 13.00 Film: Late Loungs 2.00 Martial Law 2.30 Fab C Nesbel 3.00 FILM: Bring Ne the Head of Alfredo Garcia (1974), Violent thriller, directed by Sam Pecidinpsh. With Warren Cates and leak Vega 5.00 Entere Wiresting 5.30 Entere 0.00 Entere 0.

7.00pm Cuetess 7.30 Caroline in the City 8.00 Med About You 8.30 Spin City 9.00 Drop the Dead Donkey 9.30 Whose Line to 8 Anyway? 10.00 Fills: She's Hawing a Baby (1988) 12.30em Spin Cay 1.00 Garry R Anjways' 10,00 minute care a 1,00 Garry Baby (1989) 12,30em Spin Cay 1,00 Garry Shanding's Show 1,30 Nunses 2,00 Abroom Periect 2,30 Tibs and Fibs 3,00 Mort and Mindy 3,30 Abbott and Costello 4,00 Close THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

SATELLITE: Spm-MiDNIGHT ONLY 7.30am Skotymberg Information Talevision 8.00 Sightings 9.00 Battlestar Galactica 10.00 The Six Million Dollar Man 11.00 Dark Shadows 11.30 The Ray Bradbury Theatre 12.00 The Twilight Zone 12.30pm The Twilight Zone 1.00 Tales of the Unexpected 1.30 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Tales of the Unexpected 2.00 Amazing Sones 2.30 Mystenes, Magic and Miracles 3.00 Battlestor Galectica 4.00 The Incredible Hall 4.00 Sightings 6.00 The Flay Bradbury Theetre 6.30 New Afried Historood 7.00 The Six Million Dollar Man 9.00 Amazina Societé a 5.00 Hotelproter The Historoco: 7.00 The St. Million Dollar Man 8.00 Amstang Stories 8.30 Highlander The Raven 9.30 The Hunger 10.00 Fil.Mt. Tank Girl 12.00 Fil.Mt. Odin 2.00em. Cybernet 2.30 100 Years of Honor 2.00 Deh Shadows 3.30 Dair Shedows 4.00 Close

HOME & LEISURE 6.00em Simply Parking 6.30 Instant Gardens 7.00 Potted History with Antony Henn 7.30 The Great House Game 8.00 Australia's Strangest Home Improve 6.30 The Close Guids 9.00 The 8.30 The Close Guids 9.80 The Joy of Pariting 9.30 Grow for it 10.00 tristent gardens 10.30 Articuses Challenge 11.00 Hooked on Fishing with Paul Young 11.25 The Home and Leisune House 11.30 Total Fasting with Matt Hayes 12.00 These Four Walls 12.30pm Doorstep DfY 1.00 The Furniture Guys 1.30 Climme Shelter 2.00 New Yankee Workshop 2.30 Home Again with Bob Vila 3.00 This Old House with Sleve and Norm 3.30 Two's Country

DISCOVERY 4.00pm Rer Hunt Fishing Adventures 4.30 The Oceanan 6.00 The Pacific War 6.00 Outbeck Adventures 6.30 Savannah Cats 7.30 How Did They Build That? 8.00 The 7.30 How Did They Build Intel Build 19.00 The World's Most Dangerous Animals 9.00 The World's Most Dangerous Animals 10.00 Plea Zone 11.00 Zambez Shark 12.00 Aniciary Starks 1.00am How Did They Build Thai? 1.30 The Dicaman 2.00 Close ANIMAL PLANET

11.30am Underweter Encounters 12.00
Hollywood Salan 1.00pm Animal X 1.30
Crocodie Hunter 2.00 Crocodie Hunter
3.00 Wild, Wild Repites 4.00 Crocodie
Hunter 5.00 Crocodie Hunter 6.00
Crocodie Hunter 7.00 Crocodie Hunter
3.00 Crocodie Hunter 8.30 Crocodie
Hunter 9.00 Twisted Tales 9.30 Crocodie
Hunter 9.00 Twisted Tales 9.30 Crocodie
Hunter 10.00 Crocodie Hunter 10.30 Tie
Big Animal Show 17.00 River Dinosaur
12.00 Close
MATIONAL CECCO PARMIC

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 7.00pm Grandma 8.00 The Shark Files.

Babies 10.00 Return of the Eagle 11.00 Selva Verde 12.00 Elephants of Imbuktu HISTORY

4.00pm Secrets of War Yorea — Stain's Secret Air War 5.00 Thomas Edison: Phonograph 6.00 The Monkey That 6.55 Photos for the Future 7.00 The Gunthas CARLTON FOOD

8,00am Food Networt Daily 9,30 Coson's Kinchen Cotege 10,00 Turnar's Tour of Hong Kong 10,30 Jenny Bristow's Country Cooleng 11,00 Worrall Thompson Cooks 11,30 Ideal Home Cooks 12,00 Food Networt Daily 12,30pm French Lunch 1,00 Coxon's Kinchen College 1,30 Gordon Remsey's Passion for Flavour 2,00 Can'l Stand the Heat 2,30 Food Network Daily 9,00 Food Facility 3,30 Ideal Home Cooks 3.00 Food Factory 3.30 Ideal Home Cooks 4.00 A Year at Ballymaine 4.30 Tessa's LIVING

A.00am Can't Cook, Won't Cook 6.30
Animal Rescue 7.00 Professor Bubble 7.30
Polisa Dot Shorts 7.40 Johnson and Friends
7.55 Practical Parenting 8.00 Barrey and
Friends 8.25 My Zoo 8.30 Timy and Crew
8.50 Practical Parenting 9.00 Special
Babies 9.30 Home and Away 10.00 The
Jerry Soringer Show 10.50 Maury Povich
11.40 The Heat is On 12.10pm Through
the Institute 12.40 Becque 911 1.10 the Leyhole 12.40 Rescue 911 1.10 Beyond Belief Fact or Fiction 1.40 Maury Powch 2.30 Special Babies 3.00 Living Room 3.50 Michael Cole 4.40 Home and Room 3.50 Michael Cole 4.40 Home en A-Away 5.10 Through the Keyhole 5.40 Can't Cook, Won't Cook 6.15 The Jeny Springer Show 7.05 Rescue 911 7.35 Auriral Resour 8.00 LA Law 9.00 FILM: Family Reacue (TVM 1995) 11.00 Sextasy' 12.00 Close

ZEE TV 5.30am Guldasia 6.00 Sony Men Lony 6.30 Mast Must Show 7.00 Fash 7.30 News 8.00 Paiestan News Link 8.30 Tara 2 9.00 Adhaka 10.00 Yen Zindagi 11.00 Zake ko Satar 11.30 Parampara 12.00 Mindi FiLMi Apha Jahan 3.00pm Bengia TV Nokhatirer Rat 3.30 hts My Choice 4.00 Film Chaikar 4.30 Cha Cha Cha 5.00 Zea Zone 2 6.30 Armana 6.00 Artisl of the Foringhi 6.30 Zee TV Showcase 7.00 Chasme Baddoor 7.30 Entertairment

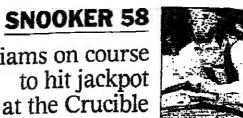
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BASKETBALL 57

Finch hoping for final flourish with the Sharks

SP()RT

Williams on course to hit jackpot at the Crucible



FRIDAY APRIL 30 1999

Salary increase reflects regard for new man at England helm

FA asks Keegan to chart rise

BY OLIVER HOLT, FOOTBALL CORRESPONDENT

THE Football Association will next week express its gratitude to Kevin Keegan for finally succumbing to its overtures when it brings the England manager's salary into line with the earnings of his club counterparts and awards him a El milion-a-vear contract.

Keegan revealed late on Wednesday night that he had decided to commit himself to a long-term future with England and admitted for the first time that he would be unable to continue to combine the job with the task of managing Fulnam, the Nationwide League second division champions.

The deal has not yet been signed, but sources close to Lancaster Gate suggested that he would be offered a threeyear contract worth £3 million to guide the England team through to the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South

instead of England manager, his official title will be "senior England coach", which is perhaps meant as recognition of the work done by Howard Wilkinson, the technical direcfor, and by Keegan's lieutenanis. Derek Fazackerley and

The FA. which has been impressed with the transformation that Keegan has wrought in the attitude in the England camp since the departure of Glenn Hoddle, has put its money where its admira-

It might have paid Terry Venables only £150,000 when he was in charge and grudgingly upped Hoddle's salary to £350,000 by the time of his resignation, but the FA has now recognised that someone of Keegan's calibre and charisma deserves a salary in the same bracket as men such as Alex Ferguson and George

The FA is keen not to rush Keegan into signing but, in the aftermath of England's draw

Wages gravy train Scotland take stock

with Hungary in Budapest on Wednesday night, Keegan stood in a basement room at the Nep Stadium and admitted that he had become unerly gripped by the honour and the inspiration of being England

He hinted that he would step down as Fulham manager at the end of this season and, although he did not rule out the possibility of moving to

a loftier role, such as director of football, at the club, it was clear he had misgivings about anything other than commit-

> do that until now. The people who have done it for me have done a great job and we have watched videos but it is not like being there." As usual he spoke with uncommon passion about the reasons why he had deviated from his original course, which was that he would do the England job for four

that I have passed on so far.

cause I have told them.

That is my concern now.

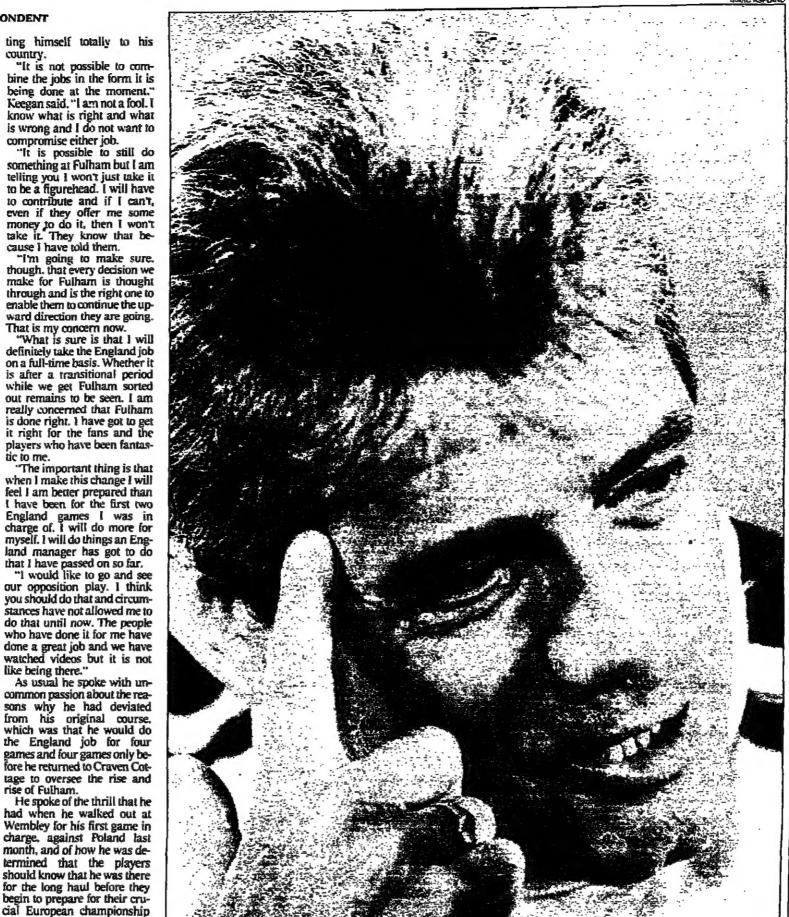
tic to me.

tage to oversee the rise and He spoke of the thrill that he had when he walked out at Wembley for his first game in charge, against Poland last month, and of how he was determined that the players should know that he was there for the long haul before they begin to prepare for their crucial European championship qualifying ties against Sweden

and Bulgaria at the beginning "If everybody could do what I have done, they would have perfection," he said. "I have been able to come in and have a look around and make my own judgment on the job. Not everyone is that privileged and 1 just feel 1 can't play games

with everybody.
"I've really, really enjoyed it. It doesn't worry me, it doesn't scare me. I can see the pitfalls but I can also see a lot of pluses, and working with the players has been an absolute

"I think for their benefit and with the two games against



Keegan is untypically pensive as he watches his England team during the I-I draw against Hungary on Wednesday

Sweden and Bulgaria coming up that they will be pleased we can all get on with it now, as opposed to everybody guessing what I am going to do. My heart tells me to take it and that's what I go by so let that

be my judge. "The chance that it wouldn't come round again is another reason why I knew I had to take it. You shouldn't be picky and choosy about the England job and I didn't mean to be that way but my circumstances dictated that it was like that. "I suppose really I made up

my mind that I wanted it when I took it part-time. Having done it for two games, I really feel I belong here. The atmosphere in the game against Poland at Wembley was a mas-

sive influence on me. "Walking out there, I felt at ease, very comfortable. I love Wembley. I care about the England team. When I used to stand up on the gantry in my job for ITV and they played the anthem, there was a part of me wishing I was down there singing it and picking the team. Now I'm doing it."

The future he saw was bright. He managed to steer away from talking about winning World Cups, but he did mention part of his motivation for taking the job was the realisation about how many young players were coming

through. When someone reminded him that he had once suggested he was not the man to lead England to a 0-0 draw in Ukraine, he had an answer ready for that, too.

"Would you settle for a 1-1 draw?" he said.

Australians are getting their feet up in the Bahamas after

the West Indies tour so they

will be refreshed and hungry

again.
"I did not think there was

any point in England going to

Sharjah. The conditions were

completely alien and the play-

ers had just had a very hard

tour of Australia. When I look

at guys like Darren Gough,

who bowled his guts out in

Australia, he would have been

better off on a desert island

The international players

have used the early season

with his family."

ACROSS (Small part) left over (8) 5 Restless desire (4) 9 A splitting into small parts

11 Convent (7) 13 Bequest (6) 15 Meditation word (6)

ill Unfreeze (4)

13 Annunciation angel (7) 20 Space (4)

23 Intact; unharmed (3,2,3,5) 24 Dip (cake into tea) (4)

25 Boring, colourless, quality (8)

6 Three-pronged weapon (7) 7 General repairer (8) 8 Profit (4) 12 Reactionary body (3.5) 14 Type of (Paris) tapestry (7)

No 1705

DOWN

Cox. the former Newcastle United and Derby County manager, will be one of Keegan's assistants

TWO

MES

16 Wither (7) 17 Marianne's sister (Sense &

I Frill; trump (4) 2 Portion; blade of plough (5)

3 Popular, colloquial (7)

4 Canvas shade (6)

S) (6) 19 St Columba's Scot. island (4) 21 Too fat (5) 22 Hawk's leg-strap (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 1704 ACROSS: 7 Veto 8 Algernon 9 Gifted 10 Echoes 11 Jinx 12 Childish 15 Intrepid 17 Hurl 18 Chased 21 Gambit 22 Fruition 23 Go/on DOWN: I Sedition 2 Cortex 3 Handicap 4 Ogre 5 Orchid 6 Lore 13 Indigent 14 Survivor 16 Russia 17 Homage

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Richard Hobson finds the former England captain using his

'ambassador' role to distinctive effect

Although the ECB declined to comment on suggestions that Botham had caused them embarrassment, the former captain turned broadcaster is likely today to be reminded of his duties as a member of the "World Cup Ambassador Group"-a band of celebrities including Caprice and Rory Bremner who have been employed to generate favourable

injuries in county cricket before the competition. Australia have got it right. They do not have naughty-boy nets if they get beaten; they learn from it. I get the impression our boys are playing county cricket now because they did not do well in Sharjah. "I would have sent them

for players to risk picking up

away en bloc for five or six days to get to know each other Botham said: "It is wrong and do a bit of bonding. The

matches to re-adjust to Eng-lish conditions and, in certain cases, to try to rediscover lost form. As for Australia, it can

be argued that a gap of 13 days between the end of a keenly contested series that finished amid riots, and the first warmup game against Glamorgan on May 8, is too short to ensure full recuperation. Adam Dale, the Australia

medium-pace bowler, has declared his fitness for the World Cup after leaving the Caribbean because of pneumonia. He will fly out to rejoin his colleagues today.

Cork takes charge, page 54 Ramprakash feasts, page 55 County scoreboards, page 55

Wimbledon rejects equal pay for women

BY ALLY RAMSAY TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

WOMEN'S tennis may be flavour of the month and Anna Kournikova may be the most photographed tennis player on the planet, but, at the All England Club, some traditions die hard. Despite the petitioning of the women's tour to give their players equal prize-money with the men. Wimbledon has declined the request and announced yesterday that it will, as ever. present the men's champion with a biggest cheque of the Champion-ships. Nevertheless, the Wimble-don prize fund for 1999 has in-creased overall by 5.4 per cent to

Wimbledon is not alone in its view that the men deserve more than the women. Only the US Open, home of all things politically correct, offers equal prize-money. The other two grand-slams the French and Australian Opens - agree with Wimbledon's thinking of offering equal pay only for equal work. With the women playing best-of-three-set matches and the men best-of-five, the latter spend more time on court than the women and have to work harder for their corn.

John Curry, the chairman of the All England Club, was at pains to point out yesterday that tournaments on the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Tour have, on average, smaller prize funds than events on the men's Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Tour. "We've had representations from the WTA and there is supposed to be a petition signed by 90 players, which we've heard about but haven't seen, in which they say they deserve and demand equal prize-money," Curry said. "I'm sure what we have done will not meet that need, but it seems strange that they're demanding 100 per cent prize-money when the WTA pays 50 per cent less than is paid at ATP tournaments."

Not that the women's champion will be out of pocket. Two weeks' work will net her a healthy £409,500, an increase of £18,000 on last year but still £45,500 less than the men's champion, who will walk away with £455,000. Where the women have done considera-/ better is in the doubles, when the prize fund has been increased by 10.5 per cent to reflect the strength of the draw over the past few years. The champions will split £167,770 between them.

The fact remains that the harder you work, the more you earn. Last year. Jana Novotna took home £468,580 for her efforts in winning both the singles and the doubles. with Martina Hingis - £33,000 more than Pete Sampras, who concentrated on the singles alone.

Botham fires World Cup salvo

ix years on from his re-tirement lan Botham has not lost the knack of upsetting cricket officialdom. Yesterday, on a tour to pro-mote the World Cup funded by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB), he could not resist criticising the host nation's preparations for the tournament, which begins on

Botham, speaking at Headingley, said that England should not have participated in the Coca-Cola Cup in Sharjah earlier this month and that he thought members of the 15-man squad were playing for their counties as punishment for performing poorly.

Botham: outspoken

IN THE TIMES TOMORROW

Christopher Martin-Jenkins opens his Innings as Chief Cricket Correspondent by examining how the game in England can get back on track. Martin-Jenkins, the voice of cricket, has pined The Times and will lead our coverage of the

World Cup.



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